FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 NOVEMBER 1980

Iranian Domestic Affairs

Qotbzadeh Arrest--In an interview with Tehran radio broadcast on 9 November, Ayatollah Musavi Ardebili, public prosecutor general, mentioned that former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh had been arrested. AFP reported on 7 November that he was arrested that day for having made "provocative statements" in a Tehran television interview on 6 November. According to a TANJUG report, Qotbzadeh had appeared on television's second channel with Mohammad Moballeghi-Eslami, acting supervisor of the Voice and Vision, Iran's radio and television network, and had sharply denounced those running the state radio and television network, calling them "counterrevolutionaries."

A statement issued by the Publicity Staff of the Supreme Defense Council the day after the interview and carried by Tehran radio warned against acts of "selfishness and factionalism" and called on the mass media to refrain from "fanning the flames of personal and group differences." The statement said Qotbzadeh and Moballeghi-Eslami had put forth "divisive issues" in the television interview and had created "an atmosphere of anxiety and pessimism" toward the country's responsible authorities and mass media. It added the Publicity Staff is pursuing the matter through the judicial authorities and "will take appropriate measures in this respect."

According to Tehran radio, the Majlis on 9 November discussed the operation of the Voice and Vision. In the debate Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani summarized events in its operation since September. He said Taqi Farahi, appointed in June by President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr as director general of the Voice of Vision, resigned on 23 September to become Iran's ambassador To China. Farahi appointed Moballeghi-Eslami acting supervisor. Moballeghi-Eslami undertook personnel changes that upset various groups within the Majlis, and Public Prosecutor Ardebili asked him to suspend his personnel changes until a permanent supervisor was appointed. Ardebili met with Ayatollah Khomeyni on 7 November and he was instructed to appoint temporary supervisors. In an interview with Tehran radio, Ardebili confirmed this sequence of events and said that the issue was about to be resolved when the controversial interview took place.

Earlier, Tehran's Friday imam, Ayatollah Khamene'i, protested against those trying to cause the people "to deviate" from the "content of our radio and television." In his Friday prayer sermon, carried by Tehran radio, Khamene'i said the people were listening to the BBC, VOA or Israeli radio instead of the radio of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Former Iranian Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan, in 9 November interview with MIZAN cited by AFP, appealed to Ayatollah Khomeyni to free Qotbzadeh, adding that his arrest was "curing a toothache with a fist and a hammer." He called Qotbzadeh's arrest a blow to Islam and the Iranian revolution. President Bani-Sadr, in an interview with ISLAMIC REVOLUTION carried by AFP, said that he would no longer appear on Iranian radio and television "so long as they do not mend their ways," and he warned against total censorship.

The Muslim fundamentalist paper AZADEGAN, according to AFP, accused Qotbzadeh of "insulting the Imam Khomeyni and the revolution." AZADEGAN said Qotbzadeh and Moballeghi-Eslami had discredited Iran's mass media and warned that "following the arrest of these two men, it is necessary to continue in order to neutralize the fifth column of colonialism operating in the country." Qotbzadeh, in an interview with Paris radio apparently given before his arrest, denounced Iranian radio and television and said the press is unaware of the international impact of its statements. He said the "mediocre figures who have taken over our government" have no awareness of the importance of the foreign press for Iran's cause and the present government "is totally incompetent to understand things like that."

Monetary Reserves--AFP reported that the Iranian Central Bank on 8 November denied a report in the London FINANCIAL WEEKLY that Iran's monetary reserves are almost totally exhausted. The bank's vice governor told AFP Iran's reserves, excluding gold, are enough to cover imports and service the external debt for 7 months. He denied Iran had withdrawn deposits from London banks and called "totally false" the FINANCIAL WEEKLY's claim that non-Iranian banks are reluctant to open letters of credit to finance Iran's imports.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation--According to Tehran radio, President Bani-Sadr met with Ayatollah Khomeyni on 7 November and reported on the war situation. He said the Iranian Armed Forces have stopped enemy attacks in key areas. The armed forces are mobilizing additional equipment and "as for their quality, the armed forces are dozens of times stronger" than before, he added. In his prayer sermon in Qom, reported by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ali Montazeri said Iran has sufficient force to fight the enemy, but he questioned why affairs are moving ahead so "sluggishly." He said there are sufficient reserves of war material in depots "but the responsible authorities and war commanders cannot make firm decisions." These issues need to be investigated, he said, adding that army commanders should "act with greater decisiveness and should break the encirclement of Khuninshahr (Khorramshahr) and Abadan. "If they are weak and incapable" then Khomeyni would make the decisions, he said. Speaking about the war with Iraq, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i said Iran "wants to pro this war" because this would cut the ties between the people and the Iraqi regime and lead to its downfall. In an interview with the Lebanese newspaper AS-SAFIR, carried by MENA, Raja'i said the 1975 Algiers agreement does not contain clauses giving Iraq the right to attack Iran if it does not abide by this agreement. Iraq fears the Islamic revolution, and this explains its attack on Iran, he said.

On the specifics of the fighting between Iran and Iraq, Tehran radio reported Iranian forces had attacked the enemy along the Abadan front and northeast of the Bahmanshir River, pushing them back several kilometers. Another Iranian attack was successful on the Mahshahr-Abadan road. Around the Allaho Akbar heights between Susangerd and Bostan, Iranian forces inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy. Iranian units also continued their advance on the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Qasr-e Shirn, Sumar and Gilan-e Gharb axis and forced Iraqi forces off two heights near Dehloran.

Tehran radio also reported the commanders of Iraqi forces in the western regions have been changed three times and a number of military dissidents have been arrested and taken to unspecified locations. PARS claimed that airborne forces completely destroyed the Iraqi post of Kalat, killing 50 and wounding 100.

In the air war, an Iraqi Armed Forces communique, carried by Baghdad radio, admitted Iranian planes raided As-Sulaymaniyah and At-Ta'min but claimed Iraqi antiaircraft fire downed four attackers. Tehran radio also reported Iranian planes raided Panjwin and Kirkuk, hitting oil and gas installations there.

Captured Iranian Oil Minister--The Iranian Government issued a statement accusing Iraq of subjecting captured Iranian Oil Minister Mohammad Tondguyan "to such torture that now his life is in danger." The statement, reported on Tehran radio, cited reports from international news agencies and an Iraqi newspaper that claimed Tondguyan is suffering from severe bleeding. Iran holds Iraq responsible for Tondguyan's life and calls on the International Red Cross to intensify its efforts for his release, the statement added.

Egypt

In a statement reported by MENA, President Anwar as-Sadat described his talks with Israeli Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres as "very constructive" and added that he was "much more optimistic after the talks I had with my friend Shim'on Peres and his delegation." Asked whether the change of administration in the United States might lead the autonomy talks into a new impasse, As-Sadat said: "we cannot say it is an impasse when we explain that

the swearing in will take place on 20 January. Thus, it is natural that we wait until the man is sworn in, and after that we can discuss the various options." Asked about his views on the Israeli Labor Party position concerning the "Jordanian option," As-Sadat said Peres and his associates "have the idea that King Husayn must join now, while I am against this idea." The president added that Egypt, Israel and the United States should reach an agreement on "full autonomy" and afterward "we would ask King Husayn and the Palestinians to join us, especially since during this period we will not make a decision on the Palestinians' issue or anyone else but are only trying to put the Palestinians on the proper road leading to a comprehensive settlement." Concerning the possibility of a summit conference with President Carter before 20 January, As-Sadat stated that he is waiting for the outcome of contacts with the U.S. Government through his foreign minister. Regarding President-elect Reagan's election statements concerning the Palestinians, As-Sadat said he is "not concerned very much" because of the nature of U.S. election campaigns.

MENA also carried a report of an interview with President as-Sadat by the Mexican paper EXCELSIOR in which the Egyptian president was asked to give his concept of a future Palestinian state. Replying to this, As-Sadat stated "Egypt's view is that this state should be linked with Jordan in a federal, confederal or other system." He added that the Palestinian state "could be demilitarized as part of security arrangements between the new state and Israel" and then went on to say that "the essential thing" is that Israel and the Palestinians should "sit together and negotiate on the security arrangements." Asked about Jerusalem, President as-Sadat said that his idea for a solution is that the city should not be divided again, that there should be "free access" to all the holy shrines and that the unified city should have three municipalities--one Arab, one Israeli and one a joint Arab-Israeli municipality headed by alternately elected Arab and Israeli mayors.

Israel

Begin U.S. Visit--Jerusalem radio cited Prime Minister Menahem Begin as announcing that, to the best of his knowledge, he will not meet with President-elect Ronald Reagan on his forthcoming visit to the United States. Referring to the President-elect's campaign commitments, Begin said: "Let us hope that everything that was said during the election campaign will also be implemented by the administration." The prime minister went on to say there was a "possibility" that the tripartite summit conference would not be held until after the new president takes office. He added: "I assume that after my meeting with President Carter I will know more about the possible date of the summit conference.: Asked whether the meetings of Labor Party leaders with President as-Sadat had harmed the autonomy negotiations, Begin stated: "I do not think this necessarily interferes with the negotiations themselves." The prime minister went on to say: "I hope that the planned meeting, on 17 November, will be held and that we will decide on additional dates. I do not think this visit will be any obstacle."

Raid Into Lebanon--According to Jerusalem radio, an IDF spokesman announced that Air Force planes "attacked bases of the Iraq-backed Arab Liberation Front" both south and north of the Litani River. The radio reported that "a base of the Democratic Front north of the Litani and a base of the Syrian-backed As-Sa'iqah organization ... were also attacked" and that "Air Force planes also attacked terrorist targets at Beufort Castle." In an interview carried by Jerusalem television, Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori stated that the raid had been intended to serve as a "clear signal to the terrorists that shelling Israeli settlements would not be passed over without any reaction." The broadcast added that the deputy defense minister had explained that "over the last few months the IDF had followed a policy of preventive--not retaliatory--actions."

Syria

Al-Asad Message to Reagan--In a cable of congratulations to U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan, reported by Damascus radio, President Hafiz al-Asad expressed "hope" that the new president would be "successful in understanding the extent of the injustice done to the Palestinian Arab people." Paying tribute to the foundations "upon which the U.S. people built their independence and their liberation" and the "human principles they advocate," Al-Asad hoped that the United States will support these principles and that it will be an effective factor in reaching "a comprehensive peace really based on justice and fairness."

Bahrain

In a statement carried by the Bahraini newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ, Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah declared that since "it appears that Reagan will be a strong president--stronger than Carter," and will make "firm and resolute decisions on many issues" and since "we cannot say for certain whether Reagan will carry out his promises to Israel or amend his stance once he becomes president," the convening of an Arab summit "becomes more necessary" so as to "draw up a well defined statement that would take into consideration all the stands that could be taken by the U.S. Government under Reagan's leadership and lay down a specific approach for dealing with every stand." He asserted that this approach would be better than "being taken by surprise by new U.S. stands and reacting to them spontaneously." The foreign minister described President Carter's approach as a "failure" because it relied on "biased negotiators such as Robert Strauss and Sol Linowitz." The minister expressed the expectation that President-elect Reagan's approach to Camp David will differ from Carter's since that policy is Carter's "brainchild." The foreign minister added that it is necessary to hold a "logical and rational dialogue" with Reagan that will look toward the future rather than the past.

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VOP COMMENTARY ATTACKS REAGAN'S POLICY ON PLO

NC071355 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1135 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] If the slogan "a strong and able America" is what mainly helped Reagan win the presidentaial battle, then the pointers, which Reagan mentioned regarding the method of his action to achieve this slogan, will inevitably lead to a much weaker America.

The United States became weak not because of Carter's stupidity or the Watergate scandal but because of a natural and logical growth of living forces, which fought the United States and struggled against it by various means to expel it from many of its traditional positions in the entire world and break its canine teeth in other positions. Consequently, Reagan's dreams to make the United States strong again by depending on his skill and his exciting movie pistol indicate a sickness of his imagination and illusions.

If the propaganda halo with which Reagan was surrounded and which leads to a central aim--converting Reagan into a new god of power--reached its peak during the election campaign, then this halo will definitely clash with earthly facts that would decisively prove that the cardboard gods--skilfully produced by the Hollywood studios to frighten children--do not exist in our contemporary world. In any case, it would be illogical to bet tht these gods would stop a worldwide current of resistance to the United States and of waging a real struggle against it.

Reagan began the battle of making America strong and capable again in a unique way to a large extent. For the first time since his victory, he pulled his pistol and pointed its barrel at the Palestinian people and their just struggle to prove to the American voters--who brought him to the White House--that the United States cannot be strong unless it stands against the humanitarian and national rights of the peoples, mainly the Palestinian people. He wanted also to prove that the United States cannot become capable unless it sides with racism and aggression in a blatant confrontation of the will of the world's states and peoples that denounced and categorically rejected this racism and aggression.

We realize the real reason why Carter exceeded all bounds in his attacks against the PLO. He has actually attacked nobody else so far. We understand this as a real and deeply significant expression of the PLO's position in the camp resisting U.S. imperialism and Zionism. This is a leading and effective position which has caused pains to the Camp David trinity during Carter's term of office and stopped its horrible march. This position is now imposing itself on Reagan as a great challenge. Reagan is openly speaking about this challenge day and night and he is giving it all his attention. On the basis of this leading and effective position in resisting and fighting against the imperialist march, we do not conceal the fact that the new U.S. president's concentration on the PLO and turning it into both a subject for his daily talks and overt attacks, impels us to consider this trend with all seriousness and responsibility and to confront it with the maximum degree of preparedness and ability. In doing so we take into consideration the fact that during the terms of Carter and his predecessors, we succeeded in resisting the strong and comprehensive blows we received and in triumphing over them both on the political and military levels. We cannot see anything that can prevent us from standing more firm and achieving greater victories during Reagan's term.

Carter's term was characterized by the fact that he used silk gloves in his dealings with the Palestinian question. He made statements and pretended that he wanted a just peace and the realization of some of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Despite this, Carter's era was actually the era of the stronger confrontations between the United States and its Zionist tool on the one side and the Palestinian people and their revolution and allies on the other.

Didn't the 8-day war [Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon] take place during Carter's era? Didn't the successive battles in the south reach their peak in Carter's era? Didn't the Camp David political massacre and the autonomy innovation take place during Carter's era? Didn't the Zionist policy of settlement reach its peak during Carter's era? All this happened when the outgoing President was wearing silk gloves and plotting behind a broad and cowardly smile which has, regrettably, deceived some in our Arab region. If there is any development which the era of the new president Reagan brings at its beginning, then it is that the silk gloves and deceitful smiles have been dispensed with. Matters have become more clear and so have the enmity and the struggle.

In the welter of all this, we have only one option; which we will not abandon in all the stages of our struggle against imperialism, its agents, tools and plans. This option is that we continue our historic struggle as strugglers for our just national rights, which all the world supports, and as strugglers for stopping the U.S.-Zionist march and driving it away from our Arab area. In this, we ally ourselves with the Arab national forces, which are loyal to our struggle and committed to the legitimate aims of this struggle, and with all the progressive forces in our contemporary world with whom we form the front of the just and legitimate struggle against imperialism, racism and Zionism.

The flexing of muscles will not frighten us, regardless of their direction. Reagan's threats will not dissuade us from continuing our solid and strong march. The will of the Palestinian and Arab man, who has right on his side and who carries the rifle of justice, will triumph in the same way that the will of the Vietnamese peasant has triumphed over the most tyrannical force in the 20th century--the U.S. imperialist force.

'ARAFAT CABLES BREZHNEV ON OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY

NC071741 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the revolution forces has sent a letter of congratulations to Comrade Leonid Brezhnev and the comrade members of the CPSU Politburo and Central Committee on the 63d anniversary of the great October socialist revolution.

In his letter brother commander Abu 'Ammar stressed that the October anniversary will strengthen the determination to intensify the struggle of the world's revolutionary forces in confronting the aggressive Zionist ambitions and imperialism.

Abu 'Ammar said: We in the Palestinian revolution proudly praise the sure solidarity and the continuing firm support of the Soviet people, government and party for our right to return to our homeland, to determine our future and to establish an independent Palestinian state.

BAHRAIN

INFORMATION MINISTER COMMENTS ON REAGAN'S VICTORY

GF071257 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 7 Nov 80 p 1

[Text] In a statement to AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ on Ronald Reagan's victory in the U.S. presidential election, Information Minister Tariq al-Mu'ayyad said:

We must not expect charity from anyone. Reagan is strong, stronger than Carter. I expect him to make firm decisions on many current issues and problems. We must be realistic in our relations with all countries in order to serve our own interests. We must strengthen our relations with the United States and get it more involved in our common interests so we can influence its policies.

It would be a great mistake to begin by attacking Reagan. It would be a great mistake to consider his victory a Zionist victory. We must be clear in our relations. Why will everyone give their blessings--and the information media applaud--when an Arab country signs a treaty with the Soviet Union, while we hear criticism and vituperation when a country concludes an arms--or other--deal with the United States?

I believe that neither the Russians, the Americans nor the entire West will be of any use to us if we do not know what we want and where our interest lie. We should realize that if the West, the United States or the entire world needs our oil, we in turn need oil. It is our principal--if not the only in some oil producing countries--source of revenue, and it is the source of our growth, progress and development. In my opinion, talk about blowing up the oilfields is irresponsible and illogical.

SAUDI ARABIA

PAPERS COMMENT ON REAGAN'S MIDEAST POLICY

LD100922 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0700 GMT 10 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 10 Nov (SPA)--The Saudi papers today comment editorially on the U.S. Mideast policy following Ronald Reagan's election as U.S. president and Israel's attempt to trap whoever enters the White House into providing American guarantees which can ensure its military superiority and serve its expansionist objectives.

Israel has revealed much about its designs by the recently repeated terrorist military operations in southern Lebanon aimed at setting the situation there aflame, to enable Israel to provide more aid to the separatist militia there, the papers said.

The papers added that they hope the new American president will benefit from the mistakes of the outgoing administration and will have a clear picture about the Arab situation in order to improve America's image in the region and make the U.S. policy a realistic one, concerned with a just peace instead of prejudice in favor of Israel.

The newspaper 'UKAZ writes that the visit of Israeli enemy Prime Minister Menahem Begin to the United States today, in the wake of the American presidential elections, provides a clear indication that the Israeli enemy is trying to contain the new American President-elect Ronald Reagan now that Israel has realized that there was nothing else to be gained from Carter.

The paper adds that Begin strove to be the first official to visit America after the presidential elections so as to ascertain the value of Reagan's election statements and his assurances that Israel is a primary and important U.S. ally in the Middle East as well as his promises to offer it help.

'UKAZ calls on the Arab states to realize the truth concerning the Israeli move to spread its spider's web around anyone who assumes office in the White House so as to wrest guarantees which would insure for the Israeli enemy a military superiority that would serve its expansionist objectives.

The Arab states, 'UKAZ writes, can counter the enemy move with a unified Arab strategy based on a full realization of all changes and on self-reliance in all fields. The paper affirms that the United States and the USSR will only help the Arabs to the extent that that will serve their own interests in the area and nothing more.

The newspaper AR-RIYAD calls on U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan to view a Mideast peace objectively and not to be taken in by the fallacies of Menahem Begin who rushed to Washington yesterday to meet him. It adds that the President-elect should not rush to define U.S. policy on the Middle East.

UAE

AL-KHALIJ: REAGAN IN FAVOR OF ISRAEL

GF091205 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 6 Nov 80 p 1

[Editorial: "Reagan the Candidate, Reagan the President"]

[Excerpts] The Reagan era has begun. On 20 January 1981 power will officially and ceremonially be transferred to the new president of the United States. About 3 months after that, according to American tradition, Reagan the president will either be the same as Reagan the candidate or separate from him, or he will combine both the candidate and the president.

Although Reagan will be devoting a great deal of his time to studying the current economic crisis in the United States, energy problems, North-South relations, and the stand on SALT II and Jewish immigration to Israel, he will not neglect the Middle East situation. It is now clear that Reagan's election is in the Zionist enemy's favor. This is because, with the failure of the "autonomy" talks, the Camp David accords have become purely an Egyptian-Israeli agreement. This will give Reagan and his aides a golden opportunity to replace the Camp David "formula" with another formula, either by heating up the military situation between Syria and Israel through Lebanon or through Israeli annexation of the Golan or by diluting the European initiative so as to include the Camp David formula.

Reagan is not only Israel's man; he is also the result of the Zionist-U.S. molding of the traditional American man of the street. This is confirmed by his plank and stand on the future of occupied Arab Jerusalem. He has unequivocally asserted that Jerusalem is "Israel's united capital." This is the ceiling beyond which no pro-Israeli Westerner can go. It appears that the purpose of Begin's forthcoming visit to the United States in a week's time is not only to offer congratulations but also to achieve further coordination, understanding, joint strategic action, and insure the continued flow of military and economic aid to Israel.

To belittle the danger of Reagan's election as U.S. president under the pretext that the United States is a "state of institutions" and that American experience has shown that there is a difference in the person when he is a candidate to the presidency and when he becomes president is unacceptable in the present Arab situation. Such an attitude seeks to retain the Arab situation as it was during Carter's administration, as though the Arab homeland were part of the United States or the Arab people an "American minority" compelled to live far from the United States. Such logic cannot serve the Arab struggle, whatever the pretexts used by those who advocate it. It is logic which experience has proved to be mistaken.

To respond to the new developments in the United States is legitimate action demanded by the Arab interest. When all the Arab people realize that Reagan is Israel's favorite man after Carter, and that he will continue his predecessors' policy of bias in favor of their enemies and those who occupied their land, there is bound to be a call in every Arab capital for an aggressive and strategic Arab policy. This is because Reagan the president will act the same as Reagan the candidate.

BRIEFS

NEW QATARI MAGAZINE--The first issue of the AL-UMMAH magazine, which is issued by the presidency of the sharia courts in the State of Qatar, appeared here today. The new Qatari magazine is a comprehensive monthly Islamic magazine. Its publication coincides with the beginning of the 15th hegira century. [Text] [Doha QNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 8 Nov 80 NC]

UAE GRANTS OIL PROSPECTING RIGHTS--Abu Dhabi, 9 Nov (GNA)--UAE Heir Apparent Shaykh Kahlifah ibn Zayid today signed an agreement granting an oil prospecting concession to three U.S. companies which are the Amerada Hess Corporation, the Occidental Petroleum Corporation and the (Alpha) Company. [Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1235 GMT 9 Nov 80 NC]

PDRY-USSR FUEL AGREEMENTS--'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, industry minister, has declared that the PDRY and the USSR have signed several agreements on the development of bilateral cooperation in the field of petroleum for the next 5 years. He said this in a statement he made to the ADEN NEWS AGENCY following his return from Moscow at the end of his visit to the Soviet Union. He also said that he discussed with Soviet officials the electro-thermal station project being financed by the Soviet Union so that rapid steps could be taken to implement the project as soon as possible. [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Nov 80 LD/EA]

GHALI, LEONARD BEGIN TALKS IN CAIRO 9 NOV

NC091902 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1817 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] Cairo, 9 Nov (MENA)--Preliminary talks between Egypt and the United States on the autonomy negotiations and preparation for a tripartite summit between Egypt, the United States and Israel began here this evening. The talks are also aimed at discussing the ideas which James Leonard, alternate chairman of the U.S. delegation to the autonomy negotiations, is carrying regarding autonomy and the transitional period.

The talks began with a bilateral meeting between Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and Mr James Leonard which lasted for 15 minutes. Afterward, the members of the Egyptian and U.S. delegations to the talks joined the meeting.

The Egyptian side includes Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ambassador Salah Sha'rawi, director of the Foreign Ministry's Palestine Department Ambassador Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif, director of Dr Butrus Ghali's office Ambassador Sa'd al-Fararji, director of the Foreign Ministry's Organizations Department Ambassador 'Amru Musa, Ambassador Plenipotentiary Fawzi al-Abrashi and Counselor Layla 'Amarah. The U.S. side includes members of the delegation accompanying James Leonard.

The talks were preceded by a meeting between James Leonard and 'Amur Musa. The talks are considered a continuation of the bilateral talks between Egypt and the United States which were held in Washington last month.

The preliminary talks lasted about 90 minutes. After the talks, James Leonard said that this meeting was a continuation of the bilateral talks between the Egyptian and U.S. sides. During the meeting questions pertaining to autonomy were discussed, which are the same questions he had discussed with the Israeli side.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said that Egypt will prepare a new Egyptian working paper which it will submit to the new U.S. administration and in which it will reaffirm its firm stand on the autonomy talks, the bases on which full autonomy must be established in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and its view of the problems which are obstructing the autonomy talks.

Answering a question on the U.S. working paper which James Leonard reportedly is carrying, Dr. Ghali said that it is not a U.S. paper but just some ideas. Answering another question, Dr Ghali said that the talks also dealt with the transitional period between now and the time when the new U.S. administration will take over.

Answering a question on whether the tripartite meeting between Egypt, the United States and Israel on the technical level will still be held on 17 November, Ghali said that this subject is still under consideration.

TALKS HELD WITH LABOR PARTY DELEGATION UNDER PERES

As-Sadat, Eban Statements

NC081633 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Text] Cairo, 8 November (MENA)--After his meeting with the Israeli Labor Party delegation today, President Anwar as-Sadat made the following statement to the Arab and foreign journalists and correspondents:

First of all, I would like to tell you that it has been a very happy occasion to meet my friend Shim'on Peres and the distinguished delegation accompanying him.

We have exchanged views and resumed our talks which we began together in Haifa, Israel.

Our talks, as I have told you, were very constructive. We discussed the issues of the whole area and the world in general, especially in the light of the change in the U.S. Administration.

President as-Sadat continued: In addition, as usual we have agreed upon the fact that Camp David must be consolidated, because it is the cornerstone of a comprehensive settlement that will come sooner or later.

We disagreed on certain points and we agreed on others. Let me say that I am optimistic, and I am much more optimistic after the talks I had with my friend Shim'on Peres and his delegation.

Let us hope that the near future will see new momentum from King Husayn or the Palestinians.

Anyhow, as I have stated before, the Camp David agreements and the treaty between Egypt and Israel are the basis for the achievement of a comprehensive settlement.

After making his statement President as-Sadat began to answer newsmen's questions.

Question: Mr President, are you afraid that the autonomy talks might face a new impasse in light of the change of U.S. Administration in Washington?

Answer: We cannot say it is an impasse when we explain that the swearing-in will take place on 20 January. Thus it is natural that we wait until the man is sworn in, and after that we can discuss the various options.

Question: You and Menahem Begin were seeking to convene a summit conference with the U.S. President. Do you believe it is possible to convene such a meeting?

Answer: My proposal is still standing. I have already said that without help from the United States as a full partner, it would not have been at all possible to achieve what we have achieved. It will be difficult for us to reach a comprehensive settlement without U.S. participation as a full partner. My proposal is still valid, but, as I have told you, we must give the man the opportunity so that he will be ready.

Question: Mr President, do you agree with the Labor Party on the Jordanian option as a settlement between us, Israel and Jordan to solve the Palestinian problem after the Jordanian and Palestinian option? [as received] Do you agree with the thesis of the Labor Party?

Answer: This is one of the points of differences between us, because my friend Shim'on Peres and his associates have the idea that King Husayn must join now, while I am against this idea. I believe the three of us [Egypt, Israel and the United States] should reach an agreement on full autonomy and afterward we would ask King Husayn and the Palestinians to join us, especially since during this period we will not make a decision on the Palestinians' issue or anyone else, but are only trying to put the Palestinians on the proper road leading to a comprehensive settlement.

Question: Mr President, would you identify the points of differences with the Labor Party?

Answer: No comment.

Question: Mr President, do you believe the autonomy talks will be blocked as a result of Israel's annexation of east Jerusalem, the continuous building of settlements and the Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal that Israel plans to dig? Does Egypt expect Israel to change its positions before the negotiations can be resumed?

Answer: As you know, we are in direct contact with the Israeli Government from time to time. I think our delegations will be meeting. I have stated before that it is quite natural that there are points of differences between us, but we shall not resort to any other methods beside sitting together and discussing these differences. Maybe you are pushing me for a confrontation, but I won't.

Question: Mr President, is it possible that there will be a summit conference with President Carter before 20 January?

Answer: I have instructed my foreign minister to hold contacts with the U.S. Government, and I am waiting for the outcome of these contacts.

Question: Mr President, President-elect Reagan has made some very clear indications against the establishment of a Palestinian state and against the PLO and in support of a united Jerusalem as capital of Israel. Are you concerned about the statements he made during the election campaign?

Answer: I am not concerned very much because all of us know the nature of the election campaign in the United States, which lasts for several months.

Question: Are you going to join the socialist international?

Answer: We have applied for this and let us hope so.

After President as-Sadat answered the correspondents' questions, Shim'on Peres made the following statement:

I thank President as-Sadat for this invitation and the very warm welcome for me and my colleagues. It is a great occasion and a real pleasure to visit this great country under the leadership of President as-Sadat. I think that we had constructive discussions on the situation in the Middle East, and I believe that the direction [words indistinct] to all peoples in the Middle East, Arabic, Jewish and other peoples. I think this is the only alternative that [words indistinct] while the president mentioned some differences, and may I add that difference is only on timing. The president has said that we (?can see) role of the Palestinians and Jordan [words indistinct] wake of conclusions of the Camp David agreements. But we do not [word indistinct] the necessity to have Jordan and the Palestinian parties. I am referring to the Palestinians who reside in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, [words indistinct] their future.

President Anwar as-Sadat held a separate 80-minute meeting with Shim'on Peres after his meeting with the Israeli Labor Party delegation, which lasted about 40 minutes and attended by Anis Mansur, the chief editor of OCTOBER magazine.

After the meeting of President as-Sadat with the Labor Party delegation, Abba Eban [former Israeli foreign minister] made the following statement: I am happy to return to Egypt at the onset of the era of peace which began with the historic visit which the inspired leader of Egypt, President Anwar as-Sadat, paid to Jerusalem 3 years ago.

I lived in your hospitable country for several years, and I have unforgettable memories in it. Now I had the chance of coming to your capital together with the Israeli Labor Party delegation under the leadership of Shim'on Peres. The aim is to build another brick in the peace structure. We all hope that this peace will include the other states and all the peoples of the area, including the Palestinian people.

In his statement Abba Eban said: "During our visit to Cairo we discussed with our colleagues in the National Democratic Party certain pending problems between us in an atmosphere permeated by good intentions.

We have exchanged views, and all that we are aspiring to is that our ideas and views be understood and to be sure that we will overcome the obstacles, and to affirm the foundations of peace with a new page that will result in the well-being, prosperity, peace and stability to our countries and peoples."

Asked about the points of disagreement between Egypt and the Labor Party Abba Eban said: There are several differences between us, but I am sure we will overcome them because the normalization of relations is going on in an amicable and satisfactory way. As for the Palestinian question, there are various solutions and proposals. We do not represent the Israeli Government, but we have our own views in our party. We are seeking a just solution to the Palestinian problem, a solution that will combine freedom for the Palestinians and the Israeli state's right to a calm life.

Asked about the [Labor] Party stand and the Israeli Government stand toward the West Bank mayors, Eban said that according to the Camp David agreement we are discussing autonomy which gives the population the chance of an independent life without political sovereignty. Afterward, we will discuss a territorial agreement. We do not want to go back to the previous armistice lines, but we want to establish secure and agreed-upon borders by negotiations between us and them.

Answering a question on whether the party's policy allows for Jerusalem's annexation, Eban said that all the people of Israel oppose the partition of Jerusalem, because it is one city, but we discuss coexistence and merger among its inhabitants. We will also start on a solution for the holy places.

Asked about the Labor Party's stand on the annexation of the Golan, Eban said the present situation must remain until negotiations start between us and Syria.

Asked about the party's policy toward President as-Sadat's proposal for the nonpartition of Jerusalem, Eban said there is disagreement on the unity which Jerusalem needs. Our viewpoint is that there should be Israeli sovereignty over a united Jerusalem. I believe that the united city must come under Israel's sovereignty, which is what is happening now. We are now discussing merger among the inhabitants with a special status for the holy place.

Meeting With Mubarak

NC091302 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] Cairo, 9 Nov (MENA)--Vice President Husni Mubarak has stated that there are some minor differences over the Middle East issue. He said: "However, we are all optimistic about the peace process."

The above remarks are part of the statements which Husni Mubarak made to newsmen and correspondents at the conclusion of his meeting today with the members of the Israeli Labor Party delegation.

Asked whether he would accept an invitation to visit Israel, the vice president said: "I will be delighted. The reason is that we have signed a peace treaty with you and we are now proceeding on the path of peace. God willing, we will achieve the final solution in peace. There would be no meaning to a rejection on my part of any invitation to visit Israel.

The vice president added that he wanted to explain some matters; that is: "There are not many differences in our viewpoints. However, we can say that it is imperative for Egypt and Israel to achieve a final solution for the Middle East issue so the states in the area can devote their full time to ensuring prosperity for their people.

Answering a question about whether he is optimistic about the phases of the normalization of relations, Husni Mubarak said: "President as-Sadat has affirmed that we have begun with the normalization of relations. Furthermore, when we say we are normalizing the relations--and we are normalizing the relations--we mean what we say. We do nothing secretly. We are proceeding on a clear path and we are optimistic about it."

To a question about his expectations concerning the autonomy negotiations, the vice president answered: "As I have said, we are very optimistic about the autonomy negotiations."

Husni Mubarak was asked to make a comment after having heard the views of the Israeli Labor Party's leader on the solution of the Palestine question within the framework of Jordan.

[Mubarak said]: "Within the framework of Jordan, our opinion is as follows: it is imperative for us to achieve a solution during the present autonomy discussions. Afterward, the Jordanians and Palestinians would graciously participate in [the settlement] of their issue so they can reach an understanding [presumably between them] about the details of their issue. The reason is that we do not speak on behalf of the Palestinians. This is our opinion."

Asked whether there were points of agreement with the Labor Party point of view, the vice president answered: I would like to leave this question to Shim'on Peres to answer.

Asked if any results were reached at today's meeting, the vice president said: I can only tell you that we have discussed certain points of view.

A reporter asked Shim'on Peres whether he had discussed strategic cooperation in the Middle East with the vice president. Peres answered: The Middle East is now facing dangers bigger than the Arab-Israeli conflict. Therefore, we must resolve this conflict and must mobilize our strength together to solve the primary problem, and then the primary danger, and then direct our resources toward future economic development in our two countries and in the Middle East.

Mubarak was told that thousands of Israelis were visiting Egypt, but no Egyptians were going to Israel. He answered that the answer to this question lies in Israel and not in Egypt.

Asked what he meant by this, the vice president answered: You can address this question to the Israeli prime minister and not to me. You know that since we began the peace process, your ambassador came to us. The people have been greeting him everywhere because peace is very dear and every Egyptian, every Israeli and every person in every country appreciates peace.

The vice president added: After starting the autonomy negotiations, we encountered some difficulties. Our people were very senstive when they heard about the plan to divide [presumably meaning annex east] Jerusalem and when they heard about the Golan law which is still under discussion. Our people are very sensitive, like your people are. They believe that the peace process is not progressing as it should. We do not give orders to the people on what to do. The people have found out that the peace process is not proceeding along its charted path, but I am still optimistic. We are all optimistic about the establishment of peace. I believe that the autonomy negotiations would be of no benefit until the new U.S. Government assumes its duties. I believe that the discussions then would be more effective and might result in full autonomy by the end of 1981.

Talks With NDP

NC081942 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1914 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Cairo, 8 November (MENA)--A statement was issued here this evening on the talks which took place between a National Democratic Party delegation and an Israeli Labor Party delegation during the latter's visit to Egypt 6-8 November.

The statement says that the two sides reviewed the development of party and political life in Egypt since the establishment of the former Socialist Union, through the transitional political platforms and until the establishment of the present multiparty system. The two sides also discussed the progress of the normalization process between the Israeli and Egyptian peoples on the one hand and the Israelis and Palestinians on the other.

They also held a fruitful and constructive discussion on all aspects of the Palestinian issue, especially the rights and status of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

The statement says in this respect that the two sides expressed the hope that the peace process and the momentum in it would continue and that Jordan and representatives of the Palestinians would take part in it to ensure its complete success.

The statement says that the talks were held in a positive and constructive atmosphere. The National Democratic Party [NDP] accepted the invitation of the Israeli Labor Party to attend its general conference. The two sides also agreed on the need to hold further consultations and to maintain close party contacts, because they firmly believe that this will help to strengthen mutual confidence and understanding and facilitate the attempts to achieve just, permanent and comprehensive peace between all the states and peoples of the area.

The Israeli delegation arrived in Cairo the day before yesterday in response to an invitation by President Anwar as-Sadat, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt and leader of the NDP.

Two rounds of talks were held on Friday morning and evening at the headquarters of the OCTOBER magazine and a third and final round was held at the headquarters of the NDP.

President Anwar as-Sadat received the Israeli Labor Party delegation today, Saturday, and the visiting Labor Party delegation met with the member of the NDP Political Bureau at a working luncheon.

The statement says that a mutually beneficial dialogue took place between the two parties with a view to acquainting each other of their parties organization, regulations and bodies.

SADDAM HUSAYN MESSAGE TO ARAB NATION ON NEW HEGIRA YEAR

JN091736 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Nov (INA)--President Saddam Husayn has said that the emigration of the noble prophet [Muhammad] from Mecca to Medina was a herald of a new age in which new horizons of faith, science, knowledge and awareness were opened for the Arabs and humanity.

In a message of congratulations he addressed to the sons of the Arab nation and Muslims on the occasion of the new hegira year, President Saddam Husayn added that the great prophet's emigration was a qualitative transformation in the life of humanity. The crossing of the sandy valleys between the two cities stood for the crossing of the ages of loss to those of guidance and for the transfer from the ages of humiliation, slavery, despotism and exploitation to the age of aspiration for freedom and justice and of belief in man's dignity and value.

He said that the choice of the Arab nation to carry the message of right was a confirmation of this nation's worthiness to perform this task. Our nation, under the leadership of the great prophet, has chosen the difficult path, and it began to do its utmost and to rise to the level of the target for which it was chosen to attain. He added that the jihad of our Arab nation and its liberated citadel--revolutionary Iraq--to purge the Arab territory of the aggressors' evil and to destroy slavery and exploitation is deeply linked with the trend and contents of the prophet Muhammad's revolution.

Following is the text of President Saddam Husayn's message:

Arab and Muslim brethren: It gives me great pride and pleasure to extend to the sons of the glorious Arab nation and to the Muslims everywhere on earth my warmest congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the new hegira year.

Brothers, the noble prophet's emigration from Mecca to Medina was the herald of a new age in which new horizons of faith, science, knowledge and awareness were opened for the Arabs and humanity.

The great prophet's emigration was a great qualitative transformation in the life of humanity. The crossing of the sandy valleys between the two cities stood for the crossing of the ages of loss to those of guidance and a transformation from the ages of humiliation, slavery, despotism and exploitation to the age of aspiration for freedom and justice and of belief in man's dignity and value.

The choice of the Arab nation to carry the message of right was a confirmation of this nation's worthiness to perform this task. Our nation, under the leadership of the great prophet, has chosen the difficult path, and it began to do its utmost and to rise to the level of the goal which it was chosen to attain.

The faithful minority of the emigrants and Al-Ansar [Medina citizens who supported the prophet Muhammad] expressed the nation's conscience and employed all the nation's potentials until its struggle achieved decisive success. After the Arabs had been liberated from what had impeded the process of their rise and achieved their ideological and political unity on bases of virtuous and noble values, they began to carry the torches of light to the entire world. With the principles of the mission, ingenuity of mind and the prime [as received] of spirit, they confronted the ideological principles of the Persian and Roman Empires, which were established on the basis of robbing man of his humanity, mind, spirit and conscience. The Arabs have also defended with their swords the right of humanity to enlightenment, progress, justice and equality.

All that the Arabs achieved during the successive stages of history and all the progress that was achieved for humanity in the various fields were a result of the divine order that overwhelmed the Arabian Peninsula and aroused trends of good among the people. All these achievements and progress were only the echo of the heroic feats of the vanguards led by the messenger of mercy to establish the basis of the new life and to wreck the barriers obstructing man's endeavors for right.

Brothers, our Arab nation's struggle and that of its liberated stronghold--revolutionary Iraq--for the sake of purging the Arab land of the filth of the aggressors and of terminating slavery and exploitation are closely linked with the course and concept of the prophet's revolution.

Our struggle against oppression and injustice for the freedom of our country and mankind and for the sake of spreading justice and peace on earth confirms our blood affinity. This also confirms that we are the legitimate heirs of our great forefathers, who emigrated with their noble prophet and shouldered with him the burdens of defending the values of the message and the honor of principles, thus sacrificing all their possessions on the road of good.

The valiant Iraqi Armed Forces and the great Iraqi people are today struggling against a clique which has inherited the same descent, thought and course adopted by the Persian empire which was destroyed by Islam. Our valiant armed forces are waging this Holy war in defense of Iraq and the Iraqi people. Their struggle goes beyond that, to the extent of defending the values for which the prophet and his noble companions struggled.

We are confronting deception, oppression and ignorance, which prevailed during the first centuries, just as our forefathers did. All the factors of victory that enabled our forefathers to defeat oppression everywhere are now well established in our souls and land. Victory is therefore ours, because victory is always the ally of the faithful and the patient.

Brothers, while celebrating the anniversary of the emigration of the noble prophet and deriving inspiration from the noble biography [of Muhammad], we are actually living the days of valiant struggle and martyrdom for the sake of right, represented by the stand adopted by the imam Husayn [grandson of the prophet Muhammad and son of the first Shi'ite imam'Ali] expressing the nation's rejection of oppression and deviation. Husayn is the good example to the successive Arab generations of sacrifice and martyrdom.

Let us keep the flag of Muhammad flying high over our heads to show us the road of right and consolidate dignity, freedom and faith in us.

May God's peace and blessings be with you.

TARIQ 'AZIZ INTERVIEWED ON WAR WITH IRAN, REAGAN

LD071111 Paris LE MONDE in French 7 Nov 80 p 8

[Paul Balta interview with Iraqi Vice President Tariq 'Aziz in Paris: "We Will Emerge Stronger and More United From This War"--date of interview not specified]

[Text] On Wednesday, 5 November, Iraqi Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Tariq 'Aziz said that he was "very satisfied" with his 1-hour meeting with Mr Giscard d'Estaing. "The French president," he said, "adopted a very responsible and very understanding attitude during our talks. He is very concerned about finding a peaceful solution to the conflict."

The Iraqi vice chairman then accused the United States of taking a "pro-Iranian attitude." "Since the beginning of the conflict," he added, "we have always been convinced that there were some links between the United States and Iran, but those links were disguised by the hostage problem. We hope that theUnited States will adopt a balanced and responsible position in this conflict. If it continues to help the Iranians directly or indirectly, openly or secretly, it can only encourage Tehran to pursue the conflict, and that is not in the interests of either the region or the world."

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and President Saddam Husayn's confidential adviser, had a long meeting with [French Foreign Minister] Francois-Poncet before being received by Mr Giscard d'Estaing. "In view of the close relations which have been established between Paris and Baghdad," he told us, "regular consultations between our two countries on important questions have become a tradition."

Tariq 'Aziz, who visited Paris some 40 days ago, made it clear that the talks dealt with the various aspects of the conflict, with its future prospects and with the current security council debate. "France and Iraq," he told us, "are agreed on an essential point: Both are in favor of a quick and just settlement of the conflict with Iran in order to guarantee peace and security in the Gulf region." "However," he added, "that does not depend on us alone."

Our interlocutor said that he had not broached the question of the supply of 60 Mirage F-1 aircraft: "It is not my job, because I am not an expert on military questions and understand nothing about them." Nonetheless, just a few days ago Baghdad radio announced that these aircraft had been paid for and must be delivered immediately.

Asked what Iraq's reaction is to Mr Reagan's election, Tariq 'Aziz replied: "That election will not alter our relations with the United States, whose leaders, whether Democrat or Republican, support Israel and are hostile to the Arabs. Since that is the case, we have learned not to rely on the statements made by the candidates during election campaigns. Therefore we will wait and see what Mr Reagan says when he takes office and we will act accordingly."

Meanwhile our interlocutor seemed extremely confident. "Our position is excellent at all levels, military, political, diplomatic and economic. We will emerge from this war stronger and more united, and not only in the Gulf," he said, stressing that Iran, on the other hand, is suffering serious setbacks and major material problems and is in danger of breaking up, because "it is a combination of minorities, including the Arabistan Arabs, among others." "If the war continues," he added, "the central government's control over the various provinces will gradually be weakened, and it is difficult to say what will happen then."

[Question] What are Iraq's intentions with regard to Khuzestan (Arabistan)?

[Answer] That depends on the answer Tehran gives to our questions and its will to live in peace with its neighbors.

[Question] Would Iraq be favorable to the proclamation of an Arab republic of Arabistan?

[Answer] All I can say is that the Arabistan Arabs have been struggling for a long time to secure respect for their national rights and that it is at present difficult to say how far they will go in their demands. [answer ends]

When we pointed out to him that Iraq also has a Kurdish minority and a Shi'ite majority and that the latter complains of having little share in power, Tariq 'Aziz stated that there is no Shi'ite problem. "I do not deny the fact," he added, "that there are some individuals in our country who support Khomeyni, but they do not constitute an important political factor. As for the Kurds, it is the Iranian Kurds who are restless. Fierce fighting is going on in Iranian Kordestan, where the regime now has three divisions. The Iraqi Kurds, on the other hand, are benefiting from development. It is true that there are a few oppositionists in our country, but they do not constitute a threat either in peacetime or wartime."

When we expressed surprise that there is no longer any talk of Iraqi aid to the Iranian opposition, Tariq 'Aziz replied: "We have had contacts with the oppositionists. We have the right to help them to win power, in that they are in favor of establishing friendly relations in the region. Who has the most chance of winning power in the future? We do not know. As far as we are concerned, we are prepared to negotiate with the existing leaders. I would like to remind you that, since the beginning of the war, our president has been proposing a cease-fire and negotiations. If Khomeyni and Bani-Sadr had accepted we would already have had negotiations with them."

In conclusion Tariq 'Aziz deplored the Iranian refusal to face facts and their persistence in an attitude which he regards as suicidal. "We hope," he said, "that world opinion will help the Tehran leaders to take the facts into account, so that we can restore peace to the region."

Return to Baghdad

JN072041 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2025 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Nov (INA)--Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, returned here tonight following a 3-day visit to France, during which he conveyed a message from President Saddam Husayn to French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

The message dealt with developments in the Iraqi-Iranian dispute and with Iraq's peaceful efforts to convince the Iranian side to recognize Iraq's national rights, to cease fire and to agree to negotiations.

Tariq 'Aziz made a stopover in Amman today and had an audience with King Husayn, during which he reviewed the recent developments on the eastern wing of the Arab homeland.

'AZIZ REPORTEDLY VISITS MOSCOW WITH MESSAGE ON WAR

LD100817 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0715 GMT 10 Nov 80

[Text] Kuwait, 10 Nov (KUNA)--Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Revolution Command Council member Tariq 'Aziz yesterday went secretly to Moscow on his second visit to the USSR since the Iranian-Iraqi war broke out last September, reports the Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH today. However, the newspapers AL-WATAN and AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM say that he has not yet gone to Moscow, though he intends to do so shortly following his earlier visit to the USSR toward the end of September, only a few days after the Gulf war broke out.

In an unattributed dispatch from Baghdad, AS-SIYASAH says that 'Aziz carried a message from President Saddam Husayn to Soviet leaders concerning the developments in the war. The paper adds that the Iraqi officials declined to say whether Iraq, which has a treaty of friendship and cooperation with the USSR, intends to ask for more arms from the USSR. However, according to the report, the Iraqi officials believe that in view of Iran's rejection of peace initiatives and the likelihood of the war continuing for some time, Iraq might have the right to bolster its military capabilities.

AL-WATAN and AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, quoting dispatches from Baghdad, say that 'Aziz will discuss the development of the Iranian-Iraqi war when he visits Moscow.

KUWAIT AL-QABAS INTERVIEWS FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI

GF081551 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 6 Nov 80 p 17

[Interview with Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi in Amman--date not given]

[Text] [Question] When will the Iraqi-Iranian war end?

[Answer] It could end at any time. This depends on the Iranian side, which continues to refuse to find a solution to the conflict. If you mean an end to the war tomorrow, or the day after tomorrow or in a few days, I think that unlikely. However, in general it could be stopped at any time.

[Question] What is the effect of the Iraqi-Iranian war on the Palestinian question?

[Answer] There are two aspects to the effect on the Palestinian question. First, it will release Iraqi and Arab economic and military power which has been preoccupied with Iranian expansionist policy--a policy that has compelled us to lay aside a large part of our military and economic strength. Hence, not all our forces were available for use in the struggle against Zionism. We want a permanent peace with Iran that is based on justice, good neighborliness and noninterference in our internal affairs. Iran should not continue to threaten us. Then we will not mass our troops on the borders with Iran but will direct them toward the arena of the struggle against Zionism to liberate Palestine.

The second aspect is a psychological one related to the making of the new Arab man. This is the first time that the Arab fighter is in battle supported by a united people defending and liberating their land and achieving victories, thus demolishing the defeatist complex of the past. The psychological and mental transformation that is now taking place among our armed forces will show its results in the future.

[Question] What is the effect of the Iraqi-Iranian war on the Iraqi economy?

[Answer] There is no doubt that the war has a negative effect. Our oil production has been halted, our economic installations have been bombed and the country's efforts are now concentrated on the war effort. Nevertheless, we are prepared to bear all this so as to achieve victory and our national and pan-Arab goals.

[Question] What is the likelihood of the forthcoming Arab summit conference in Amman succeeding, particularly as it is being held in the absence of Arab solidarity?

[Answer] I believe that the conference should be held. Although the Arab situation is not what we would like it to be, this should not prevent the conference from convening. On our side we shall make every effort to make it successful.

[Question] What is the extent of Iraqi-Jordanian military coordination?

[Answer] By its honorable pan-Arab [qawmi] stand, Jordan has set an example for all the Arab countries. Jordan supports Iraq, but it is not taking part in military operations. Jordan's support stems from its conviction that our cause, which is the cause of all the Arabs, is a just one. Its stand is not based on calculations of loss or gain but on pan-Arab considerations.

Iraq has not asked Jordan for military assistance, not because Jordan is unwilling to give it but because we do not need it.

[Question] What is the future of the province of Arabistan [Khuzestan] in light of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict?

[Answer] We have no plans regarding Arabistan. It is difficult to predict or speculate now on the future of the Arabs in Arabistan for we are still halfway along the road.

[Question] Some Iranian leaders are trying to impart an Islamic aspect to Iraqi-Iranian war--in the sense that their war with Iraq is an Islamic war. What do you think?

[Answer] War is certainly not an Islamic war. We are no less Islamic than Iran. Neither Iran nor any other country in the Muslim world has the right to assume the role of a teacher of Islam. The war between Iraq and Iran is about territory, sovereignty over the Shatt al-'Arab and the Iranian regime's constant interference in our internal affairs. There are no ideological aspects.

[Question] How effective is the nonaligned mediation committee and what are the chances of its success?

[Answer] I cannot say now whether it will succeed or not. The war will end when the Iranian leaders become aware of reality and its effect on them. One can say that initiatives are useful. When a large number of countries declare their readiness to resolve pressing international problems and end a war between two belligerents, this constitutes evidence of the world's awareness of the need to put an end to injustice and tyranny. This in itself is a positive sign which we appreciate.

[Question] How does Iraq visualize the consequences of the Iraqi-Iranian war?

[Answer] Iraq has specific aims with regard to the territory it seeks to control. We have liberated the territories which Iran unjustly controlled. Iraq's aim is to regain its rights and sovereignty over its territory and territorial waters.

[Question] There is a general impression that the United States has begun to turn from its declared neutrality to a stand biased in Iran's favor. What is your view?

[Answer] So far the United States is declaring neutrality in the Iraqi-Iranian dispute. We cannot confirm that Iran has not received U.S. supplies. The United States has not sent arms. However, this does not mean that nothing has happened. If the United States should decide to send arms to Iran, then our stand on this matter will be different.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 8-10 NOV

Communique No 128

JN081000 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0948 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Communique No 128 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 8 November 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Iraq's great army has proved that it is the Arab nation's army through its heroic battles against the racist Persian enemy. It has also proved that it is the Arab nation's sword, spear and shield—an army that has known nothing but victories in its battles against the enemies of our nation and people. This brave army is fighting on the nation's eastern border in defense of its independence, liberty and dignity against the aggression of the racist Persians who tried to belittle our rights and honor, teaching them lessons in respect for the rights of others.

The outcome of our armed forces' activities in the operational sectors last night and this morning is as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Personnel: 27 killed. A vehicle loaded with soldiers was destroyed.
B. Equipment: Two guns, one vehicle, one excavator and a quantity of medium weapons were destroyed.
C. A fuel reservoir was burned in Abadan.
D. Two gunboats were sunk in the Shatt al-'Arab and one steamboat was sunk in the Karun River.
E. A total of 11 serviceable vehicles of various types were captured.
F. Three serviceable tanks and two armored personnel carriers were captured.

II. Our losses:

A. Personnel: Eight martyrs.
B. Equipment: 12 vehicles of various types and 1 gun.

[Signed] Armed Forces General Command, 8 November 1980

Communique No 129

JN081734 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1706 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Communique No 129 issued by the Iraqi Army Forces General Command on 8 November 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The lions of our victorious army and the cavaliers of our valiant air force continue to hit the enemy and demolish its citadels, which did not and will not protect it. They have proved our armed forces' capability and superiority in the arenas of honor and heroism. The daily losses in lives and equipment sustained by the racist Persian enemy will inevitably disclose the truth of the hegemonists, rotten Khomeyni and his gang, to those who are misled by their charlatanism and lies.

Following are the results of our armed forces' activities in the various operations sectors this afternoon:

I. The ground forces:

A. Known enemy losses:

1. In personnel: One killed.
2. Our helicopters raided enemy military targets in the southern sector of the theater of operations, destroying three tanks, five vehicles, one of which was filled with supplies, one personnel carrier and one field gun.
3. Four fighter planes were downed in the southern sector of the theater of operations by our anti-aircraft ground fire. Two of them were downed in the hilly region of Allaho Akbar, the third in the Saybah region and the fourth in the region between Abadan and Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr].

B. Our losses:

1. In personnel: Three martyrs.
2. In equipment: Two vehicles.

II. The air force:

A. Enemy planes raided civilian targets today. Our anti-aircraft defenses opened fire and forced them to flee, as follows:

1. At 0650 they raided As-Sulaymaniyah in an attempt to hit civilian installations.
2. At 0658 they raided At-Ta'mim in an attempt to hit residential areas.

B. Our planes raided an enemy camp south of Ilam today, scoring direct hits on the enemy's vehicles and personnel assembly points.

All our planes returned safely to the homeland.

[Signed] The Armed Forces general command, 8 October 1980

Communique 130 On Aged Volunteers

JN090738 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0700 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Communique No 130 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command--date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Sons of great Iraq: Our holy war against the enemies of Iraq and the Arab nation needs volunteers who are over 65 years old. He who wishes to volunteer to earn the great honor of serving the homeland, the people and the nation should send his name and address and state his age in a cable to the presidential head office at the presidential palace, or call personally at the information bureau of the presidential palace or the governors' offices in the provinces to introduce himself and provide the required information, as of 1000 on 10 November and until 20 November 1980.

[Signed] Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the armed forces

Communique No 131

JN091324 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1240 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Communique No 131 issued by The Armed Forces General Command on 9 November 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The sons of the great Iraqi Army, fighters of our Arab nation, are confronting the aggression of the racist Persians and are defending, with unrelenting faith and determination, the values and ideals for which the greatest of all martyrs Al-Husayn ibn 'Ali, may peace be upon him, and his righteous followers fought and were martyred, thereby recording the most splendid epics of heroism in defense of the homeland, sovereignty and principles for which our forefathers were martyred.

The racist Persians, who continue to falsify history and principles and to dream of restoring Khosrow's [Persian King overthrown by Islamic conquest] false glories through the heresies of their lamb, Khomeyni the charlatan, are today sustaining strong blows at the hands of the soldiers of justice and principles. These blows will bring them to their senses. Last night and this morning, the activities of our armed forces in the various sectors of operations resulted in the following:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Personnel: 74 killed and 1 vehicle carrying soldiers destroyed.
B. Equipment: 2 tanks, 10 vehicles, 1 excavator and 1 missile launcher destroyed.
C. An ammunition dump was set on fire and exploded.
D. A gas reservoir and a gas pipeline were set on fire in Abadan.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 11 martyrs.
B. In equipment: Four different vehicles and one personnel carrier.
C. One of our helicopters went down in enemy territory yesterday, 8 November 1980, while carrying out its duties. We hold the Iranian authorities responsible for the safety of its pilots.

[Signed] Armed Forces General Command, 9 November 1980

Communique No 132

JN101053 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1005 GMT 10 Nov 80

[Communique No 132 Issued by the Armed Forces General command on 10 November 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The sons of the great Iraqi Army, vanguard of our struggler people and nation, continue to defend the homeland and the people with high enthusiasm and effectiveness. The ignorant racist Persians are still arrogant and still telling lies to their helpless peoples, concealing the truth about the defeat of their forces on the battlefields. These forces lack faith in the backward and ignorant leadership headed by the charlatan Khomeyni and realize that our victorious forces' repeated blows to the reckless enemy are capable of ending the sufferings of the Iranian peoples and ridding them of a regime which believes in superstitions and myths. Last night and this morning, the activities of our armed forces in the various sectors of operations resulted in the following:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Personnel: 41 killed and many wounded.
B. Equipment: Three tanks; two vehicles, one of which was loaded with ammunition; and an excavator were destroyed.
C. A large quantity of medium weapons and ammunition was captured.
D. Three ammunition dumps were set on fire and exploded.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Five martyrs.
B. In equipment: Four vehicles, two personnel carriers and an armored car.

[Signed] Armed Forces General Command, 10 November 1980

INA EXPLAINS CALL FOR ELDERLY VOLUNTEERS

JN091238 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1124 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Nov (INA)--INA has learned that the Armed Forces General Command's call for volunteers over 65 years old was prompted by the feeling that participation in battle is a great honor.

The agency says that men over 65 years old have repeatedly asked the government authorities and party and popular organizations for some role to play in the battle in accordance with any formula agreeable to the Armed Forces General Command, especially since they are beyond the age of military and civil service and therefore cannot become members of the Popular Army.

The agency adds that it was these considerations that prompted the General Command to respond to the request of these zealous men. The command is now studying duties to give to these men so they can earn the honor of participating in the battle.

ARMY SEIZES SHIPYARD, 41 BOATS NEAR ABADAN

JN081048 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1025 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Nov (INA)--Last Thursday, Iraqi forces seized 41 gunboats used for patrolling and other military purposes. They also seized a repair shipyard located on the eastern bank of the Karun River in the area of Jofeyr.

A Baghdad television film today showed a large number of these boats anchored at the river pier. Other boats were shown ready for launching. The television camera panned over various parts of the big shipyard, located in the middle of a clump of palm trees, showing Iraqi soldiers searching the boats.

Reporting on the film, a Baghdad television commentator said that Iraqi units continue to purge enemy pockets on the banks of the Bahmanshir River, south of the besieged city of Abadan. He added that when they gained control of the shipyard, the Iraqi forces also seized a large quantity of equipment and raw materials used in the manufacture of ships, riverboats, vehicles and cranes.

BAGHDAD REPORTS ON ARREST OF FORMER IRANIAN MINISTER

NC081841 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 1600 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to news agencies, Khomeyni's former foreign minister, Sadeq Qotbzadeh, has been arrested. The agencies, quoting reliable sources, reported that a large number of Revolution Guards with orders for Qotbzadeh's arrest attacked his house and arrested him. According to the same agencies, the orders for Qotbzadeh's arrest were issued by the state prosecutor-general and were signed by 'Asadollah Lajevardi. The Revolution Guards surrounded the residence of Khomeyni's former foreign minister on Saturday at 1200 GMT and took him to Evin Prison.

Sadeq Qotbzadeh is one of Khomeyni's close friends and was the person who guided Khomeyni throughout his entire stay in Neuphle-le-Chateau. Sadeq Qotbzadeh, who was in Syria for a period and was known there as Reza Esfahani, is one of the suspicious elements of Khomeyni's regime. He was a student for a long period in America and [words indistinct] traveled to (?Syria) and [word indistinct]. He lived in Canada for a while also and went to France after his expulsion from that country. He arrived in Tehran in the same plane which brought Khomeyni to Iran.

Sadeq Qotbzadeh's arrest is the preliminary step in the arrest of other Khomeyni associates, and political observers believe that soon Mehdi Bqzargan, Ebrahim Yazdi, Mostafa Chamran, 'Abbas Zamani alias Abu Sharif, and other pawns of the Khomeyni regime will be arrested as well.

Sadeq Qotbzadeh was arrested on orders of the mullahs of the regime after confessing that the present Iranian regime is a fascist regime and oppression and censorship in Iran prevails in an unprecedented manner.

Political observers believe that differences between Khomeyni's officials desire for the seizure of power and the mullahs' lust for power are becoming stronger and deeper each day, that the war for power between the officials of the present Tehran regime is expanding each day and that a range of new (?purges) among the regime's officials might take place.

SADDAM HUSAYN CONGRATULATES USSR'S BREZHNEV

JN071458 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Nov (INA)--President Saddam Husayn has sent congratulations to Leonid Brezhnev, chairman of the presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, on the occasion of the 63d anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution. President Saddam Husayn wished Brezhnev and the friendly Soviet people all success and progress.

In his cable of congratulations, President Saddam Husayn said: We are extremely eager to continue our two countries' relations of friendship and cooperation and to promote and develop these relations on the basis of the principles upon which the treaty of friendship and cooperation between our two countries was founded.

The president added: We are looking forward with optimism to further strengthening the Iraqi-Soviet ties, in the interest of both countries' peoples, and in opposition to imperialism, Zionism and all forms of aggression that stand against the aspirations of the peoples for freedom and the right to a decent life and independence.

VOICE OF IRAQI KURDISTAN GREETS OCTOBER REVOLUTION

JN081812 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1600 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Text] On the anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution which initiated in 1917 by the Soviet peoples and which toppled the racist reactionary regime, we convey our greetings to the friendly Soviet peoples, all world peoples, the militant world working class and our Iraqi and Kurdish peoples. The October revolution had started a new era [remainder of item indistinct].

EDITORIAL VIEWS BEGIN U.S. VISIT, REAGAN 'POSSIBILITIES'

JN100950 Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 10 Nov pp 1-13

[Editorial: "Swift Zionist Move in the United States]

[Text] Despite all the attempts by Israel and all the pressure by Zionist organizations, U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan has refused to receive Menahem Begin, who is currently in Washington. This has increased Israel's fears and worries about how to deal with the new U.S. administration.

Reagan's refusal to receive Begin may or may not be intentional. In either case, difficulties are expected in relations between Israel and Washington. This does not mean that there will be a radical change in the U.S. attitude toward the Arab-Israeli dispute, but it does indicate new possibilities in Washington contrary to the U.S. commitment pursued enthusiastically by Carter.

Thus, Menahem Begin, who went to Washington for the first time deprived of his arrogance, will try with the help of Zionist organizations to improve the Israeli position in the United States which was shaken by Reagan's victory, a victory won without reliance on Jewish votes. Begin will also try to save the Camp David process and to preserve the tripartite alliance of Israel, the United States and Egypt because this process is in Israel's interests.

This poses an important question: What have the Arabs done to confront Israel's move with regard to the expected changes? What will they do to aquaint themselves with forthcoming trends in the Reagan administration?

There should be an effective Arab move at an appropriate level because the outcome of this move is an important and necessary prerequisite for the Amman summit so as to enable the summit to study and evaluate the U.S. position and thus adopt a joint Arab strategy capable of dealing with all expectations and possibilities of the U.S. position on the Middle East issue. Arabs should also know how to deal with the U.S. position in a manner guaranteeing the achievement of Arab interests and protection of their rights and land against any aggression.

JORDAN TIMES COMMENTS ON REAGAN 'FIRST STEPS' ON MIDEAST

JN090730 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 9 Nov 80 p 2

[Editorial: "First Steps"]

[Text] One step forward, two steps back seems to characterise the first tentative tiptoes of U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan into the Middle East diplomatic minefield. He must know that the eyes of the entire Arab world, as well as Israel, are upon his initial footwork in this area, even if we do not expect him to plunge in feet first (and in many ways hope that he doesn't).

In an interview with TIME magazine, Mr Reagan has spoken of the central position of Jordan in any resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict and has expressed a desire for an early meeting with His Majesty King Husayn. Other comments of the President-elect, both during the campaign and since the election, likewise point to an awareness on his part that the Camp David approach is seriously flawed, if not actually dead as far as he is concerned. He has expressed some reluctance to meet Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin during Mr Begin's forthcoming visit to the United States. Israeli newspapers have noted that Mr Begin had carefully calculated the timing of this visit to fall just after the U.S. elections, seeing that as psychologically the best time to press Israel's case to the maximum advantage, no matter who was elected. Mr Reagan is wise in not wanting to be subjected to such intense pressure straightaway. He also knows that he owes very little to the Zionist lobby since Jewish votes did not play a significant role in deciding the election; thus he can safely resist Mr Begin's advances, at least for now.

So much for the step forward. But this must be seen against the background of Mr Reagan's identification during the campaign with the most fanatical and extreme Zionist perceptions of Israel's legal, strategic and territorial positions. He has, for example, said that he does not regard the Jewish settlements on occupied Arab territory as illegal, and that occupied Jerusalem must remain under Israeli "sovereignty" with perhaps some "Vatican-like" status for the Arab old city. He has furthermore praised expansionist Israel as a "valuable strategic asset" to the United States, and made some audicious, not to mention historically baseless, assertions about the sovereign status of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

This has been compounded in recent days by Mr Reagan's hostile attitude to the Palestinian people, whom he insists on seeing in terms of the simplistic, erroneous and extremely offensive dichotomy of "terrorists" on the one hand and refugees on the other. His assertions about the "undemocratic" or "unrepresentative" nature of the Palestine Liberation Organisation are both incorrect and at variance with the view of the vast majority of the world community, more of whose members recognise the PLO than recognise the State of Israel. And we can only feel alarm at the inclusion in Mr Reagan's foreign policy "think tank" of such Zionist piranhas as the "senator from Israel," Mr Henry Jackson and a former "senator from Israel," Mr Richard Stone.

All of us look to Mr Reagan to overcome his blinkered perceptions and develop a coherent appraoch to the Middle East true to his pledge that the U.S. must not force a settlement on the area and that any settlement that is reached must be acceptacle to Arabs and Israelis alike. We hope that Jordan will soon be able to present the common Arab plea for balance, justice and fairness to Mr Reagan personally. Until then, we are watching his every step with concern.

LIBYA

JANA REPORTS REAGAN'S POST-ELECTION PRESS CONFERENCE

LD081306 Tripoli JANA in English 0815 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Text] Los Angeles, 8 Nov (JANA)--The U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan said his first statements characterized by intransigence at a press conference in Los Angeles and announced that he considered Palestine Liberation Organization as a terrorist group. He also touched upon the issue of American hostages and Iran's stand and warned the Iranian authorities from extending the period of keeping the hostages in Iran.

The new U.S. president touched upon American relations with the Soviet Union and in particular the talks on limitation of arms, and said that the future of these talks will depend on new conditions.

MORE EMBASSIES CONVERTED INTO PEOPLE'S, BROTHERHOOD BUREAUS

Panama People's Bureau

LD072322 Tripoli JANA in English 1906 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Nov (JANA)--As a way to escalate the people's revolution, and as a confirmation that genuine relations among people are achieved directly and not through ambassadors and envoys, the Libyan Arab masses in Panama, Central America, gathered and marched this morning on the Libyan Embassy in Panama, and transformed it into a People's Bureau and formed a people's committee to run it.

The members of the people's committee of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau, met with the press in Panama who attended the march, and expounded to them at length the direct popular democracy being adopted and put into practice by the Libyan Arab people through their people's congresses and people's committees.

Aden Brotherhood Bureau

LD091534 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Nov 80 EA

[Text] A press conference was held this afternoon at the building of the Libyan Arab brotherhood bureau in Aden. It was attended by a number of local news media representatives and Arab and foreign diplomats accredited to Aden.

The brother officials of the bureau explained what had motivated them to convert the Libyan Embassy in Aden into a Libyan Arab brotherhood bureau and said that other Libyan embassies were also being converted into Libyan Arab brotherhood bureaus.

A statement issued by the popular committee of the Libyan Arab brotherhood bureau in Aden said that the conversion was part of the escalation of the popular revolution being waged by the fraternal Libyan Arab people to give expression to popular authority. The statement said that in affirmation of the fraternal bonds between the fraternal peoples of Democratic Yemen and Libya, a popular committee had been established to manage the bureau so as to promote the ties of brotherhood between the two peoples.

It will be recalled that the Democratic Yemeni Foreign Ministry last Thursday received a memorandum from the popular committee of the Libyan Arab brotherhood bureau in Aden, pointing out that the embassy had been converted into a Libyan Arab brotherhood bureau on the basis of experience gained by the Libyan people at home and abroad.

RALLY SUPPORTS AL-QADHDHAFI ON TRANSFORMING SCHOOLS

LD091924 Tripoli JANA in English 1833 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] Tripoli, 9 Nov, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--A huge student procession was staged in Tripoli today supporting the leader's speech to secondary schools, colleges and the Sabha colleges of education. The leader's speech referred to transforming schools and educational institutes into military camps for preparing students to fend off all imperialist and reactionary plots directed against the honour and national pride of the Arab nation.

The students chanted slogans calling for total mobilization, and for transforming educational establishments into military training camps. The slogans denounced the imperialist-reactionary moves taken by some Arab rulers in making their countries imperialist bases for America, the enemy of all Arabs.

The students issued a statement asserting their adherence to the leader's speech and denouncing reactionary attempts and imperialist domination to which the Arab nation has been exposed with the aim of bringing the colonisers back again to halt Arab unity. The statement added that the student masses are intent on continuing efforts for the much aspired Arab unity and for speeding up the day of final liberation from all forms of repressive, unjust dictatorial regimes to which the Arab citizen is subjected today, and the time when power, wealth and weapons will be in the hands of every Arab.

The students re-affirmed that they will be the warriors of true Islam, the revolution which stands against humiliation, surrender and capitulation. They will call for jihad in the name of God and come into direct open confrontation with those who have taken the faith of American Islam and others who still see things with eyes of the Middle Ages using religion as a cover. The statement concluded by asserting the belief of the student movement in the historic humanitarian dicta heralded by the third universal theory, and their commitment to advocate its causes.

MOROCCO

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DENOUNCES AL-QADHDHAFI

LD071650 Rabat MAP in English 1238 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Text] Rabat, 7 Nov (MAP)--After it examined the speech made by Col al-Qadhdhafi on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha in which he offended the Islamic faith and a brotherly country, Saudi Arabia, the Moroccan House of Representatives adopted a motion denouncing the political and military acts and the propaganda of Al-Qadhdhafi, aimed at harming the unity of Arab and Islamic countries.

The motion also warns against the dangers of Al-Qadhdhafi's policy which benefits the enemies of the Arab-Islamic nation and Africa. The motion added that this attitude is in line with his activities against the unity and security of Arab and Muslim peoples and his destructive policy against his neighbours and against Arab and Islamic countries especially by training and arming mercenaries, like what is happening on the western borders of recovered Moroccan Sahara. By this behaviour Al-Qadhdhafi tries to throw the Arab-Islamic world into chaos, agitation and instability, further stated the motion.

PROCEEDINGS OF 9 NOV CABINET SESSION

Autonomy Talks, Raid in Lebanon

TA091701 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Excerpts] In their talks in Egypt President as-Sadat told President Navon that he would not allow any Egyptian personality to attend any event taking place in Jerusalem.

In the Cabinet session Minister Shamir said that Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali's refusal to hold talks in Jerusalem stemmed from As-Sadat's instruction.

Egypt's Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada has asked to hold a meeting in Jerusalem tomorrow with Yosef Burg and this meeting will indeed take place. At the Cabinet session Minister Burg said it was difficult to predict whether the autonomy talks in mid-November would be held at the ministerial or another level. This would become clear only after the U.S. delegation has returned from its talks in Cairo. Ambassador Sol Linowitz will meet the prime minister in Washington this week and will examine the moves for continuing the talks.

The Israeli-Egyptian land border will open for the passage of goods in mid-December. This was reported by the foreign minister at today's Cabinet session. A delegation will leave for Egypt at the beginning of next month to discuss the implementation of the agreement on cooperation in cultural and educational issues.

[Deputy Prime Minister] Yiga'el Yadin is substituting for Menahem Begin both as prime minister and defense minister. Yadin today reported to the Cabinet on the air force's raid on terrorist concentrations in southern Lebanon at the end of last week.

Evaluation of Reagan Election

TA091715 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] The Israeli Cabinet today heard Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's evaluations in the wake of Reagan's election to the U.S. presidency. The conclusion from the reports and the ensuing debate is that a concentrated effort should be launched now in the direction of Ronald Reagan's administration taking shape rather than assuming a posture of tranquillity and security in the wake of Reagan's pro-Israeli declarations, and that action should be taken immediately. Our political correspondent Gad Beqer reports on the Cabinet meeting:

It again emerged from the foreign minister's review at the Cabinet session today that Israel is looking forward to Ronald Reagan's term at the White House. Minister Shamir again reviewed for the ministers the declarations made by Ronald Reagan during the election campaign. In spite of being part of the lengthy campaign, these declarations would definitely give ample opportunities to Israel's policy vis-a-vis the United States--this is the view prevalent at the Cabinet. The foreign minister pointed out Reagan's firm policy which should be expected in any issue related to the Soviet Union. Israel may very well be of great and primary assistance in this policy. Reagan's declarations have given rise to the hope and the understanding that he has adopted the position according to which Israel is considered a first-rate strategic asset in the region. Perhaps we are on the verge of a situation in which the U.S. official position toward Israel is first and foremost based on Israel's strategic value. We should emphasize this line--ministers said--rather than trust sentimental motives or the Jewish vote.

However, it should be pointed out that wary opinions were also voiced at the Cabinet claiming that Israel should be ready for the eventuality that the Republican administration may base its position against the Soviet Union on Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

It was feared in Israel that Jimmy Carter's reelection for a second term would shortly afterward bring about massive U.S. pressure. The belief was expressed today that this fear does no longer exist, at least not at this stage.

As it has already been mentioned, a great deal depends on the administration Reagan will form around him. It is believed that Reagan will to a large extent rely on his aides. However, the quality of relations with the United States under Reagan's leadership is no less dependent on our ability to take the initiative and stand up to the new U.S. leading team. This was the opinion voiced at the Cabinet meeting today. Israel must direct a great effort toward the new administration. One should be careful not to adopt a posture of tranquillity and security lest we wake up too late. The people surrounding the President-elect should be studied, including the Jewish ones. We must reach the target first, one of the ministers told us.

Both in the media and at the Cabinet meeting today one could discern a critical tone toward the Foreign Ministry regarding the question whether all the bets had not been for the Democrats. The foreign minister explained that the Israeli Embassy in Washington had contacts with Reagan's men and that an embassy employee had been specially appointed to this job.

As far as the political processes in this area are concerned, it is not all clear whether the next tripartite meeting on the autonomy negotiations scheduled for 17 November will indeed take place and, if it does, when and where it will be. Minister Burg will tomorrow receive the Egyptian ambassador in Israel, Sa'd Murtada, and will apparently hear from him also about the Egyptian position in the wake of the political change in the United States.

Criticism of Peres, As-Sadat Talks

TA100957 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Nov 80 pp 1, 2

[Political correspondent 'Uzi Benziman report: "Criticism Leveled at the Cabinet at Peres' Talks With As-Sadat"]

[Excerpt] Criticism was leveled at yesterday's Cabinet session at the talks held in Egypt by Messrs Shim'on Peres, Abba Eban and Hayim Bar-Lev in which they suggested to Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat that he accept the "Jordanian option."

During the Cabinet session several ministers claimed that the attempt by the Labor Party leaders to receive As-Sadat's acceptance of the alignment's ideas regarding the nature of the solution for Judaea and Samaria was against the game rules of a democratic regime. According to further remarks exchanged in the Cabinet session it was not appropriate for the opposition to suggest its own plan of action to the Egyptian president at a time when another agreement--on the autonomy--exists between the sovereign governments of Israel and Egypt.

During a brief debate on this issue ministers satisfactorily noted As-Sadat's adherence to the Camp David accords and his refusal to accept the Labor Party leaders' approach.

BEGIN LEAVES FOR WASHINGTON, WILL NOT MEET REAGAN

TA090624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] Last night the prime minister left for a 10-day visit to the United States, during which he will meet with President Carter and leaders of the Jewish organizations and appear before the media.

Before his departure Menahem Begin announced that, to the best of his knowledge, he will not meet with President-elect Ronald Reagan on his visit. Before his departure the prime minister held a short news conference, and our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer brings us the main points from it.

[Begin recording] [Schiffer] One week late and after a series of discreet, open contacts, last night the prime minister announced that, to the best of his knowledge, he will not meet with President-elect Ronald Reagan. Menahem Begin said he understood the new president's reasoning, that the time is not ripe for a meeting between them.

[Begin] My visit to the United States is a private one and its main, primary aim is to participate in a ceremony to mark the 100th birthday of Ze'ev Jabotinsky. Some months ago I was invited, in connection with this visit, by U.S. President Carter, to meet with him in the White House and that visit will take place this Thursday, 13 November.

[Schiffer] The prime minister was cautious in his remarks about the expected changes following the change in the U.S. administration, but said he regarded Reagan's statements on the Middle East as presidential commitments, not election campaign statements.

[Begin] Of course, if the elected president makes an announcement it must be regarded as a commitment. I do not accept the position that even in an election campaign people say things and afterward they do not implement them. Let us hope that everything that was said during the election campaign will also be implemented by the administration.

[Schiffer] What about the autonomy talks and the tripartite summit in Washington at the end of the year? Menahem Begin will only know the answer to the question of the future of the autonomy negotiations after his planned meeting with President Carter.

[Begin] We have no clear reports about this issue. I think there is a possibility that the summit conference will not be held until after the new president takes office, that is, after 20 January 1981. But another date may be set. I assume that after my meeting with President Carter I will know more about the possible date of the summit conference, as you call it.

[Schiffer] It was possible to distinguish more than a trace of satisfaction in the prime minister's reaction to the results of the meetings the leaders of the Labor Party held with the president of Egypt. To the question of whether those meetings had harmed the autonomy negotiations, Menahem Begin replied:

[Begin] It is not very important whether this is accepted or not. There are meetings of this sort, and I do not think this necessarily interferes with the negotiations themselves, in any way, as we ought to conduct them. I hope that the planned meeting, on 17 November, will be held and that we will decide on additional dates. I do not think this visit will be any obstacle. As for the contents, you have heard them, as I have, from the Israeli radio.

[Schiffer] In the early hours of the morning, after taking his leave of the ministers and confidants who had come to see him off, the prime minister left for another trip to the United States. [end recording]

MINISTER PAT VIEWS REAGAN MIDEAST POLICY

TA071724 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Text] Minister Gid'on Pat has said that Israel need not mourn the change that has taken place in U.S. leadership. In his view the first result of Reagan's election will be a decline in the importance of the Middle East in U.S. policy. President Carter sought quick successes in this sphere, even at Israel's expense, Minister Pat said, and it is perhaps for the good that this subject will no longer be so central. Minister Pat spoke at the Engineer's Club in Tel Aviv.

KENYA

CURFEW ANNOUNCED IN NORTHEASTERN PROVINCE

LD100506 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 10 Nov 80

[Text] With immediate effect, the Government of Kenya has imposed a curfew order covering the whole of Northeastern Province between 1800 in the evening and 0600 the following morning. The curfew order will be operative until further notice. Imposing the curfew order, the Northeastern provincial commissioner, Mr Benson Kaaria, said the government had declared that all Somalis who are Kenya citizens and living in the Northeastern Province will be confined into security villages as from today. Those found living outside security villages will henceforth be regarded as shifta and will be shot on sight by Kenya security forces. He said he had given (?powers) to chiefs in the whole province to effect the government declaration and to enforce the curfew order.

Murder Leads to Curfew

LD100700 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 10 Nov 80

[Excerpts] The government has imposed a dusk to dawn curfew in the whole of Northeastern Province, which covers Garissa, Wajir and Mandera districts, with effect from today, following the murder of five more civil servants by shiftas (as heard) in Garissa township shortly before 9 p.m. last night.

Making the announcement, the Northeastern PC [provincial commissioner], Mr Benson Kaaria, said that one of the persons is being detained at Garissa Hospital with serious gun wounds. He said the government has been shocked by last night's killings because it was only on Saturday that the government informed the Kenyan Somalis to decide whether they belong to Kenya or to a neighboring country.

TANZANIA

NYERERE NAMES NEW CABINET, NEW PRIME MINISTER

LD071934 Dar Es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 7 Nov 80 EA

[Text] Dar Es Salaam--President Nyerere has announced a new cabinet led by a new prime minister, Ndugu Cleopa David Msuya, formerly minister for industries. The president has also named three ministers without portfolio, two ministers of state in his own office, two ministers of state in the office of the vice president and two ministers of state in the office of the prime minister.

Notable changes in the new cabinet include the appointment of Tanzania's representative to the UN, Ndugu Salim Ahmad Salim, as the new minister for foreign affairs. The chief of defense forces, Lt Gen Abdallah Twalipo, is now the new defense minister, while Brig (Muhiddin Kimario) has been appointed the new minister for home affairs.

The full list of the cabinet is as follows:

Vice president is Ndugu Aboud Jumbe Mwinyi.

Ministers of state in the office of the vice president are Ndugu (Kigoma Malima), who is minister of state for economic affairs; and Ndugu Aboud Twalib Aboud, minister of state for Zanzibar affairs.

Ministers of state in the office of the prime minister are Ndugu Jackson (Makweta) and Ndugu (Abel Mwanga). Three ministers without portfolios are Ndugu Rashidi Mfaume Kawawa, Ndugu Abdallah Said Natepe, and Ndugu (Daniel Madaha Matemba). The two ministers of state in the office of the president are Ndugu (Timoth Shindika) and Ndugu Clement George Kahama.

Ndugu Jamal retains his financial portfolio, while the new agriculture minister is Ndugu Joseph Mungai. He replaces Ndugu John Malecela, who is now the minister for the new Ministry of Mines. The new minister for industries is now Ndugu (Basil Mremba), former director general of the Small Industries Development Organization, SIDO. Minister of commerce is Ndugu Ibrahim Kaduma, while the new minister for the new Ministry of Animal Husbandry is Ndugu (Herman Kirigini).

Minister for natural resources and tourism is Ndugu Albert Sepetu, while Ndugu Samuel Sitta retains his portfolio as minister of works. The minister for water and energy is Ndugu Al-Noor Kassum. The minister for communications and transport is Ndugu (Augustino Mwingira), and Ndugu Mustafa Nyanganyi, who has held the portfolio of junior minister in several ministries, is now the new minister for land, housing and urban development.

The minister for national education is Ndugu Tabitha Siwale, while the Ministry of Health has a new minister. He is (Aaron Kiduo), the former minister of foreign affairs. Ndugu Benjamin Mkapa is the new minister for information and culture. The minister for labor and social welfare is Ndugu Alfred Tandau, while Ndugu Julie Manning has retained his Ministry of Legal Affairs.

There will be five deputy ministers in the new cabinet. They are Ndugu Vernance Ngula, Ministry of Finance; Ndugu Seif Bakari and Ndugu (Stephen Sibona), Ministry of Defence; Ndugu Ali (Mtimo), Ministry of Home Affairs; and Ndugu Crystant Nzindakaya, Ministry of Industries.

Mwalimu also appointed the principal secretaries in the various ministries. With the exception of a few cases, most of the former principal secretaries have retained their posts. The president, meanwhile, has appointed Maj Gen David (Siguri) new chief of defense forces, succeeding Lt Gen Abdallah Twalipo, now minister for defense. The president has also appointed Ndugu (Solomon Liyani) inspector general of police, taking over from Ndugu Philimon Mgaya who is retiring.

UGANDA'S PAULO MUWANGA ARRIVES FOR TALKS

LD081743 Dar Es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 8 Nov 80 EA

[Text] Dar Es Salaam--Ndungu Paulo Muwanga, chairman of the Ugandan Military Commission, has arrived in Dar Es Salaam for talks with President Nyerere. At Dar Es Salaam Airport Ndugu Muwanga, who is leading an 11-man delegation, was met by his host, Mwalimu Nyerere, who introduced him to the new prime minister, Ndugu Cleopa David Msuya, and the new foreign minister, Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim. A State House spokesman said the talks will center on matters pertaining to the two countries.

UGANDA

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL DISSOLVED; ELECTIONS CANCELED

LD081100 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Text] The Military Commission has dissolved the National Consultative Council [NCC] in preparation for the general election on the 10th of next month. The NCC officially started its work after the liberation in May last year.

Election Announcement

LD081810 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 8 Nov 80 EA

[Text] The chairman of the Military Commission, Mr Paulo Muwanga, has announced that there will be no presidential elections but general elections will be held as scheduled on the 10th of next month. The chairman announced this at a news conference he held at Entebbe Airport before leaving for Tanzania and Zambia. In his absence, the commander of the Uganda National Liberation Army and the chief of defense staff, Maj Gen Tito Okello (Lutwa), will be acting chairman of the Military Commission. The minister of works and housing, Mr Abraham Waligo, will chair the cabinet in the absence of the chairman of the Military Commission.

Mr Muwanga told newsmen at Entebbe Airport that on issues where the interparty ad hoc legal committee could not agree, the government decided that the legal position shall prevail. Therefore, there will be presidential elections and each candidate will have his own ballot box as stipulated in the law. Mr Muwanga said that the interparty ad hoc legal committee had agreed on the framework of the elections [words indistinct].

On the statement issued by Kenya and the Sudan that there should be no elections until the Tanzanian troops are out of the country, Chairman Muwanga rejected this as unacceptable. Mr Muwanga pointed out that the Egyptian troops are in the Sudan and there are foreign troops in Kenya, but elections have been held in those countries when these foreign troops are there.

He clarified that as millions of Ugandans have registered, this is an indication that they want to elect a government of their choice.

He said that the statement made by Kenya and the Sudan is only bent on destabilizing the situation in the country so that the elections cannot be held as scheduled.

The chairman said that the government has taken seriously the statement made by Mr Lameck Ntambi, leader of an underground organization called the Uganda National Union, based in Kenya.

Chairman Muwanga charged that Mr Ntambi had been given the latitude to disrupt the elections. In this connection, Mr Muwanga warned anybody assisting those who want to interrupt the elections to reassert his or her stance. But the chairman said security in the country is generally under control, although there are still some disturbing incidents in and around Kampala. At present, chiefs in Kampala are recruiting volunteers who will be trained as home guards in their areas. Police training will also be speeded so that they can fully handle their responsibilities for internal security.

Mr Paulo Muwanga said that his visit to Tanzania is to discuss matters of mutual interest between the two sister states. He said he will brief his old colleagues Presidents Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, about the prevailing situation in the country and the forthcoming elections.

The chairman was accompanied by the ministers of regional cooperation, Dr Albert Picho Owiny, and that of state for supplies, Dr Moses Apiliga. To see him off at the airport were the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Otema Alimade; the commander of the Uganda National Liberation Army, Maj Gen Tito Okello; the chief of staff, Brig David Oyite Ojok; the inspector general of police, Mr Luke Ofungi; and other senior government officials.

Okello Meets Electoral Commission

LD092033 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 9 Nov 80 EA

[Text] The acting chairman of the Military Commission, Maj Gen Tito Okello (Lutwa), held a meeting today with the chairman and members of the electoral commission. The meeting agreed on measures to speed up the transportation of electoral materials ordered from abroad. This is a further indication that the Military Commission is fully committed to the elections being held on the scheduled date, 10 December 1980.

Speaking on behalf of the Military Commission, the acting chairman expressed regret that there have been some misunderstandings both at home and abroad regarding laws relating to the elections. The acting chairman traced out the legislative hostory by pointing out that [words indistinct] had issued a proclamation giving itself legislative powers which were vested in one of its organs, namely the national consultative council, that proceeded to exercise these powers. In May this year, however, an (?old) organ of the Uganda National Liberation Forces [UNLA] namely the Military Commission, was (?prompted) to make a further proclamation which also became law. The major general said that the laws relating to (?general) elections are derived from the provisions of the constitution and the National Assembly elections act.

To bring the laws up to date for the forthcoming general elections, he said, the National Consultative Council passed some amendments. Unfortunately, when these amendments were being made, some members [words indistinct] Consultative Council. They had prepared to issue statements giving the impression that some political provisions they considered best to their parties (?were also) accepted and taken as law. [Words indistinct] the National Assembly elections act, for instance, whose provisions were enacted in 1957, makes provision for (?recording), including ballot papers, ballot boxes and other related matters. The secret ballot boxes, therefore, have not been introduced by the Military Commission or by any political party. They were introduced by the British before independence.

Regarding presidential elections, it had been unanimously agreed bythe UNLF that there be direct presidential elections. Some political parties had backed down a long time ago. However, the constitution provides for (?another) form of presidential elections under Article 26. The same article and clause II further provide that subject to the provisions of this article, parliament may prescribe the procedure for the election of the president. He said: one such procedure has been prescribed.

The major general made a very strong appeal to all Ugandans that respect should be given to the laws of the land. He further appealed to political parties (?that) regarding election laws, [words indistinct] amendment to the law must be presented to appropriate lawmaking machinery. To ignore such machinery and to continue misleading the public is a negative approach to national issues, the major general concluded.

CHAD

REPORTAGE ON FIGHTING, FAILURE TO SIGN AGREEMENT

Agreement Never Signed

AB071613 Paris AFP in English 1556 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Lome, 7 Nov (AFP)--The leaders of the two main factions in Chad's seven-month-old civil war never signed a provisional cease-fire agreement drawn up in the Togolese capital, Lome, under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), it was learned here today. An OAU delegation which left here for Ndjamena last weekend was unable to meet Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei or his rebel Defense Minister Hissein Habre because of last minute lack of coordination, according to an official statement published here.

Committee To Try Again

AB091257 Paris AFP in French 1105 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Lome, 9 Nov (AFP)--A delegation of the OAU subcommittee on Chad will visit Ndjamena again to try and meet leaders of the factions in the Chadian conflict, Mr Goukouni Oueddei and Mr Hissein Habre, and ask them to sign the accord that was drawn up in Lome to put an end to the civil war in the country, it was learned from well informed sources in the Togolese capital on Sunday.

Fighting in Ndjamena

AB081431 Paris AFP in French 1022 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Text] Yaounde, 8 November (AFP)--Fighting continues in Ndjamena between Hissein Habre's Armed Forces of the North (FAN) and forces of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) of Mr Goukouni Oueddei, supported by many Libyan battalions, but the situation has not improved in favor of either camp, it is learned from reliable sources in Yaounde on Saturday. The FAN continue their harassing of FAP [People's Armed Forces] positions both in the European sections of the capital and the area east of the airport. But gains on the field have been very small, the same source states. On the other hand, Hissein Habre's fighters claim to have decimated one of the three Libyan batallions in Chad at the end of October. In another development, it is learned from sources close to the GUNT in Yaounde that Egyptian soldiers are in Abeche, Hissein Habre's stronghold, 750 kilometers east of Ndjamena and 180 kilometers from the Sudanese border. According to the FAP, these soldiers are in particular ensuring the functioning of the Abeche airport, which serves as a supply base for the FAN soldiers.

Further on Fighting

AB090911 Paris AFP in French 1410 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Text] Kousseri (Northern Cameroon), 8 Nov (AFP)--The presence of Libyan troops in the battle for the Chadian capital could not be confirmed or denied on Saturday in Ndjamena, where sporadic fighting is going on. In fact, as of midday, journalists who are waiting on the other side of the Chari River opposite the Chadian capital had not received permission from the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) of Mr Goukouni Oueddei, which has Libyan support, to go to the government zone. For the moment, the impression on the Cameroonian bank of the river is that the shooting between the coalition forces and the Northern Armed Forces (FAN), led by Mr Hissein Habre, is not very intense. Sporadic small arms and heavy machinegun fire was heard intermittently on Saturday morning. From time to time, Mr Goukoui's Popular Armed Forces (FAP) also fired Stalin Organ multiple rocket launcers. But to observers in Kousseri, the present clashes are not the most violent known in Ndjamena since the beginning of the civil war on 21 March this year. The only new aspect of the war is that an unidentified twin-rotor helicopter shaped like a banana bombed the area held by FAN in Ndjamena.

Kamougue Comment

AB080713 Paris AFP in English 0644 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Paris, 8 Nov (AFP)--Chad's 7-month-old civil war, in which thousands of Libyan troops have reportedly intervened over the past week, will be over within the next 10 days, Chadian Vice President Wadal Abdelkader Kamougue claimed here yesterday.

The Armed Forces of the North (FAN) of former Defense Minister Hissein Habre were in desperate straits and will be destroyed wherever they are, he said. Col Kamougue, whose Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) back Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei's Popular Armed Forces (FAP), told reportes that if Mr Habre was not reduced to the silence of the hereafter, he would be able to foment new uprisings.

As soon as the fighting was over, he said, serious political peace talks would take place. His faction favored a decentralized government with power delegated to provincial authorities. Answering a question, he said it was possible that Libyan arms were in Chad and that Libyan personnel were also there to help operate sophisticated weapons.

We have been forced to knock on all doors for help, even the doors of the devil, Col Kamougue said. He said he had no knowledge of any treaty of friendship or defense between Mr Goukouni's government and Libya. The Chadian vice president, who arrived in Paris from Egypt, which unofficially favors Mr Habre's faction, said he had conferred with French cooperation minister Robert Galley about scholarships, credits for cotton cultivation, and the general situation in Chad. He denied there was any movement for secession in southern Chad, of which he is the de facto political [word indistinct].

ZAIRE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETS; MOBUTU ON U.S. ELECTIONS

AB081305 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0855 GMT 8 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 7 November (AZAP)--The Executive Council, which met a Mount Ngaliema on Friday under the leadership of the founding chairman of the Popular Movement for the Revolution [MPR] and president of the republic, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, has decided to give a special touch to the activities which will mark the 20th anniversary of the Zairian Armed Forces [FAZ] on 17 November, the installation of the Central Committee of the MPR on 19 November. Many delegates from friendly countries will take part in these activities.

The Central Committee marks a new stage in the Zairian political renewal. Its installation should be felt by all the Zairian people in measure with the lofty mission assigned to it by the party.

The founding chairman told the council about the latest visit to the Zairian-Ugandan border in his capacity as state commissioner for national defense. This visit was undoubtedly crowned with success, since the traffic of goods and people has resumed normally on either part of the common border, in conformity with Zaire's desire to live in peace with all her neighbors.

In his introductory speech, the founding chairman told the council about the recent American presidential elections. Zaire, which respects the free and democratic will expressed by the American people, will work towards the consolidation of the cooperation and friendly relations which have existed between the two countries for so many years.

BENIN

KEREKOU RECEIVES CHADIAN ENVOY WITH MESSAGE FROM GOUKOUNI

AB081154 Cotonou Domest . Service in French 1930 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Our great comrade in arms, and head of the state, President Kerekou today received several international personalities at the presidential palace.

For his part, the Chadian charge d'affaires in Nigeria was bearer of a special message from President Goukouni Oueddei, head of the Chadian Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] to our great comrade in arms, President Kerekou. He also described to our countryman the topics that he discussed with President Kerekou.

[Begin recording] Our discussions centered around the situation in Chad. Obviously, we discussed Hissein Habre's allegations that there are Libyan troops in Chad. That is not the case. We have a white population which is recognized in Chad. As you know, even the Chadian foreign affairs minister is white. He has his brothers and all his ethnic group who are dressed in combat gear and whom he mistakes for Libyans. As we have discussed with the president, Hissein Habre went too far. He found Libyans in Egypt who are discontent with Al-Qadhdhafi's government and he dressed them up as prisoners of war. Therefore, we stated that there is no question of Libyan troops in Chad. Also, we would like it to be known that there is a Transitional National Union Government in Chad, which was set up as the outcome of the Lagos accords. So Benin's support for this government was fully legal because the GUNT is recognized by the OAU, which has given the ad hoc committee the mandate to find a solution to the Chadian problem. Hissein Habre accused Benin of being partial but this is baseless because Benin's action was legal.

[Question] According to latest information on the fighting, troops loyal to Goukouni Oueddei have won resounding victories in the northern part of the country. What exactly is the situation?

[Answer] Yes, Hissein Habre took advantage of his portfolio as minister of defense to arm himself well and he used countries bordering Libya, like the Sudan, for his bases. At this time, we were not expecting any war so no one could challenge the setting up of these bases. We thought it was just for national defense. But now that he has revealed his intentions, [words indistinct] and it was from there he was getting his supplies. That is why the coalition forces launched an attack on thse towns. Evidently, the northern part of the country has fallen into the hands of the coalition forces. We have taken the towns of [names indistinct] and we hope to finish very soon with these supporting bases and we would move on to attack [words indistinct].

On the national level, the people only wish for peace, and they would like to see peace restored. In the interior, at the southern part of the country, calm prevails everywhere at the moment. Schools are in session; hospitals are ready to receive the treat the sick. [end recording]

GAMBIA

SENEGALESE TROOPS BEGIN RETURNING HOME 7 NOV

AB071740 Paris AFP in English 1705 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Banjul, 7 Nov (AFP)--Senegalese troops unexpectedly deployed here last week under a mutual aid treaty today started returning home across the River Gambia.

The last of the estimated 300 Senegalese soldiers, who arrived on Friday amid rumors of a coup plot, was expected to leave The Gambia on Sunday. Sources close to the Senegalese-Gambian joint commission, which has been meeting here this week, said that the Senegalese force had accomplished its mission.

LIBERIA

23 POLITICAL PRISONERS FREED BY SGT DOE

AB091425 Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 1200 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Twenty-three former officials of the defunct Tolbert government, including Grand Cape Mount County senior Senator (Charles B. Sherman), have been released from further detention by the head of state, M Sgt Samuel Doe. Other released yesterday, Saturday, were former Bong County superintendent, (Joseph Yowate); former Grand Bassa Superintendent, (Levi Johnson); former education minister, Dr J. Bernard Blamo; the former auditor general of Liberia, (Norwood Dennis); former Lofa County superintendent, (Thomas Brimah); the former dean of the Louis Arthur Grand School of Law at the University of Liberia, (Toyson Bernard); and former labor, youth and sports deputy minister, (Joseph Dennis).

Others released by the head of state were former deputy commissioner for immigration, (Paul Molba); former Grand Bassa County assistant superintendent, (Jacob Brown); former national ports authority deputy managing director, (Joseph Greene); former Air Liberia acting general manager, (George Tubman); and the former managing director of the National Housing Authority, (J. Newman Baker). Those released from further detention also included former representative, (Eugen Flemmingstar); former forestry development authority managing director, (John C. Woods); LEC (Liberia Electricity Corporation] former deputy managing director, (Charles Gbaryewe); former director of the national security agency, (Patrick Mineka); (Q. Leoyes) of the special security services; (Plittle Artris) of the national port authority; Cottonham University student Steve Tolbert; and (Robert James) of Grand Bassa County.

Releasing the 23 persons from further detention, head of state Doe said that the Liberian revolution stands for fairplay and respect for human dignity. He declared that Liberia is a country of one people working toward one goal. The head of state said that the PRC [People's Redemption Council] government had no malice against those detained, and once they were willing to cooperate and contribute to the national reconstruction, they will be accepted.

NIGERIA

FOREIGN MINISTER RESTATES COMMITMENT TO OPEC

AB090730 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] Nigeria has restated her commitment to the ideals of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC. In a statement published in Lagos, the minister of external affairs, Professor Ishaya Audu, said Nigeria would continue to respect her membership in the organization. He said that the OPEC played an extremely useful role since its inception with regard to making sure that the countries that own natural resources acquire the means of marketing their products. Professor Audu considered this as a tremendous achievement since no individual member country could have done it because of the power of the multinational oil corporations.

SENEGAL

SENGHOR CALLS FOR OAU STUDY OF LIBYAN INTERVENTION IN CHAD

AB091225 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1140 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] Dijon, 9 Nov (AZAP)--The Senegalese head of state, Mr Leopold Sedar Senghor, said in Dijon (France) on Saturday that he was going to ask that an extraordinary conference of OAU foreign ministers be organized to study the situation in West Africa following the Libyan military intervention in [word indistinct] northern Chad. In a press conference, the Senegalese head of state described as racist Tripoli's attitude towards black Africans.

SIERRA LEONE

GOVERNMENT ISSUES STATEMENT ON UNIVERSITY DISORDERS

AB080609 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 7 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Now here is an important statement from the State House. A release from the office of the president states that events leading to a sit-down strike declared in the University of Sierra Leone on the 25th of October 1080 reached a climax on Thursday the 6th of November when students of Fulbey College led by the vice-chancellor of the university--apparently under duress--decided to march down to State House and other parts of Freetown in protest against the lecturers who were being asked by the Stufdnlo Oikesume lectures.

Prior to this incident, a series of meeting between the acting president and senior cabinet ministers on the one hand and members of the senior staff association and the university administration on the other, were held in the office of the president in order to iron out points of disagreement while consideration is being given to the conditions of service of staff of the university.

At one stage members of the staff association during discussions requested transportation to Njala and back in order to consult with their counterparts at Njala College. This exercise was repeated a number of times without reaching a conclusion. Although the acting second vice president, the honorable attorney general and the minister of education had gone a great way towards appeasing the senior staff members, the appeal appears to have fallen on deaf ears.

On the eve of Wednesday the 5th of November, a State House bus was sent to Njala at the request of representatives of the senior staff association so that it could travel overnight to collect senior staff members and bring them down for a meeting which was scheduled to be held at State House at 1330 on that day. Regrettably, the bus driver was physically attacked by the students at Njala campus before they seized the bus and set it on fire. In addition to this unfortunate incident, four police vehicles are reported to have been damaged beyond repair.

Before he left, his excellency had given written assurance that the conditions of service of the university staff would be looked into and the matter considered by the end of November 1980. At a meeting on Thursday, the 6th of November 1980, at which members of the senior staff association were invited, the honorable attorney general and pro-chancellor launched a final appeal, which was endorsed by the honorable minister of education, for the lecturers to resume work the strength of the assurances given them by senior members of cabinet. It is hoped that this final appeal will be headed by the senior staff association of the University of Sierra Leone.

SOUTH AFRICA

SWAPO LEADER EXPRESSES WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE

LD091528 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1300 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] In an interview with JORNAL DE ANGOLA today, Sam Nujoma, leader of the Namibian liberation movement--the South-West Africa People's Liberation Organization--expressed his willingness to take part in negotiations with South Africa with a view to finding a peaceful solution for securing the independence of Namibia.

Nujoma: Negotiations 'Imminent'

LD101016 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 10 Nov 80

[Text] The leader of SWAPO, Mr Sam Nujoma, says negotiations between SWAPO and South Africa on the future of South-West Africa are imminent. The official Angolan news agency ANGOP quotes Mr Nujoma as saying that the South African Government had not yet decided when a meeting should be held.

Mr Nujoma's statement follows persistent reports that Angola, SWAPO's main backer, is ready to talk to South Africa about the future of South-West Africa. Mr Nujoma said he was prepared to have members of the South-West African council of ministers present at any negotiations, but insisted that they could take part only as members of the South African delegation. In a dispatch to REUTER in Lisbon, ANGOP also quoted Mr Nujoma as saying that he was confident that SWAPO would always be backed by the Marxist Angolan Government.

In another report, ANGOP said the United Nations representative for South-West Africa, Mr Ahtisaari, left Luanda yesterday for Lusaka after discussing the future of the territory with President Santos of Angola. There has been a flurry of diplomatic activity about the independence of South-West Africa in recent weeks.

ZIMBABWE

SUPPORTERS OF MUGABE, NKOMO CLASH IN BULAWAYO

NC090732 Paris AFP in English 1728 GMT 9 Nov 80

[Text] Salisbury, 9 Nov (AFP)--An as yet unknown number of people were killed in a bloody clash between supporters of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and those of Home Affairs Minister Josuah Nkomo today at Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second city, police said here.

Supporters of the two parties in the coalition government--Mr Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) and Mr Nkomo's Patriotic Front (PF) clashed violently at a ZANU rally in the southern city, a police spokesman said. A number of people had been killed, said the spokesman, who was unable to give a figure.

Reports reaching here from Bulawayo said the sound of gunfire and explosions could be heard late this afternoon in the city's Glenview black township.

Salisbury Report

LD091753 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 9 Nov 80 CA

[Text] Several people were injured and a number of cars were stoned in Bulawayo today. The incidents occurred in the vicinity of the White City stadium where a ZANU-PF rally was staged. The rally was addressed by the minister of finance, Comrade Nkala, the minister of information and tourism, Comrade Shamuyarira, and the minister of labor and social services, Comrade Kandai.

This morning ZANU-PF members from various Bulawayo townships reported some of their comrades were being prevented from attending the rally by Patriotic Front supporters. It is reported that those responsible for the stoning incidents may also have been PF supporters. Police intervened to use teargas to disperse unruly crowds. Inside the grounds, the ministers urged their audience to ignore hooligan elements (?and) let the meeting continue.

Second Factional Clash

NC091855 Paris AFP in English 1853 GMt 9 Nov 80

[Text] Salisbury, 9 Nov (AFP)--Former guerrillas from the two rival political factions represented in Zimbabwe's coalition government were fighting a gun-battle in a black township in the southern city of Bulawayo, police said here tonight.

The battle started with sporadic firing at dusk between former Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (ZANLA) forces loyal to Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and Zimbabwe People Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA) guerrillas loyal to Home Affairs Minister Joshua Nkomo, a spokesman said.

Police and national army units had been deployed in an attempt to contain the situation in Bulawayo's western township, where the guerrillas occupy separate but nearby camps, he added.

The gun-battle came in the wake of violent clashes between supporters of Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo during a rally staged in another Bulawayo Township by Mr Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) Party today in which one person was killed and 34 injured, the spokesman said.

Police detained 61 people after using teargas to break up the fighting, he added.

Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second most important centre, is Mr Nkomo's stronghold and his supporters were angered by attacks on him and his Patriotic Front Party at the ZANU-PF rally by Mr Mugabe's ministers.

The Bulawayo clashes are the worst so far in the mounting tension between the government coalition partners and suggest that recent urgent attempts to improve relations between the two rival groupings have not worked.

Official sources here fear that the clashes between the former guerrillas could spark off similar violence in Salisbury's Chitungwiza Township, where nearly 10,000 former guerrillas from both factions are based within two kms (one mile) of each another.

The growing rift between the coalition parties was heavily underlined in speeches by ZANU-PF ministers in Bulawayo, with Finance Minister Enos Nkala and Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarira in particular raising tempers in the PF camp.

Containment Measures

LD091853 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 9 Nov 80 CA

[Text] Here is a late news item: between approximately 1145 and 1245 today there was stoning in Western Township, Bulawayo, in the vicinity of the White City stadium. As a result, 1 person was killed and 34 injured. Fifty-one people are assisting police with enquiries. At about 1730 this afternoon small arms fire erupted in the Western Township. The area of firing is isolated. Police with national army support are taking measures to contain the situation.